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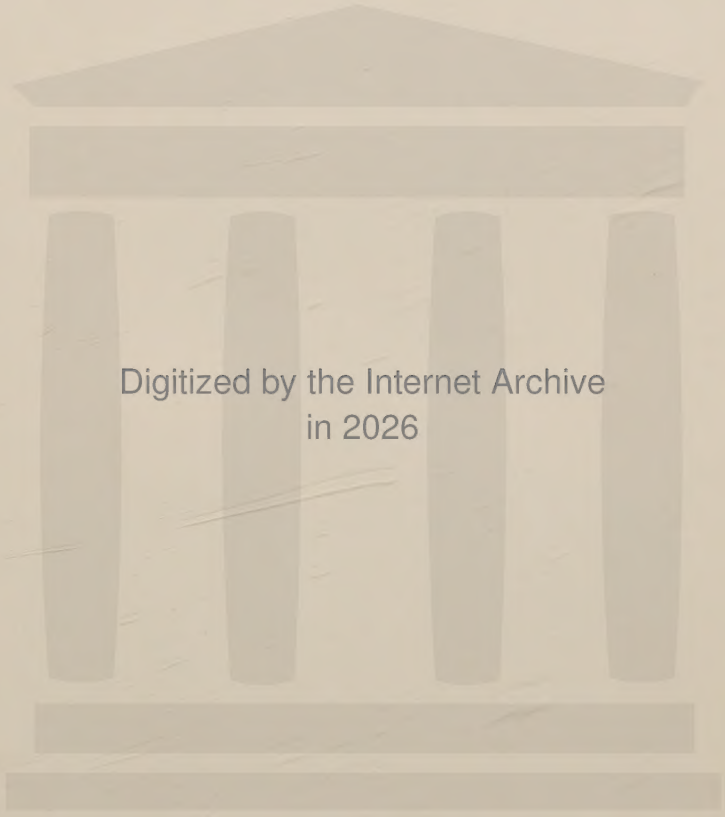
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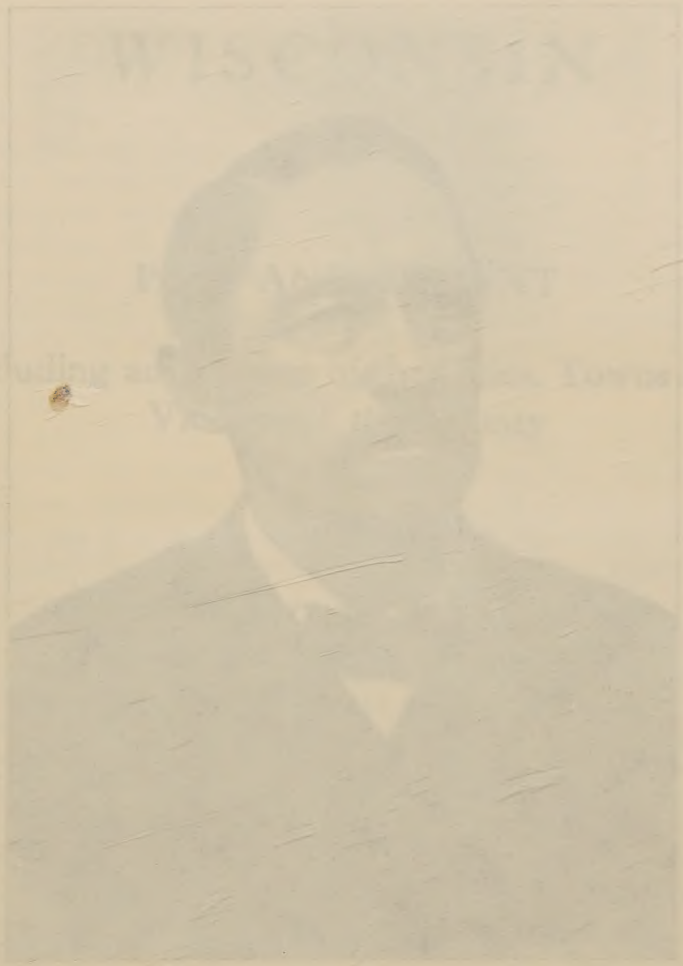

HON. JOSEPH M. MORROW

HISTORY OF
MONROE COUNTY
WISCONSIN

PAST AND PRESENT

Including an account of the Cities, Towns and Villages of the County

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
RANDOLPH A. RICHARDS

ILLUSTRATED

1912
C. F. COOPER & CO.
CHICAGO

SEATTLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY.

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INTRODUCTION

After more than half a century of growth since its organization as a county, it seemed fitting that an historical account of its settlement, development, its people and institutions should be made at this time and preserved; its primary importance is the placing in book form and for all time the earlier historical incidents surrounding the settlements of the various towns, cities and villages, and that the time was almost too late and the work too long neglected became very apparent to the editors when the search for material began, for with the passing of the early settlers, comparatively few of them still live in different parts of the county, have gone forever the opportunity to get early facts in some instances.

To properly and adequately write the History of Monroe County has been a task encompassed with tremendous difficulties; it has been accomplished after laborious research and the co-operation of many of its oldest citizens, whose aid the editors acknowledge most gratefully, for without it some parts of this work would have been impossible.

Despite its difficulties its preparation has been fraught with much interest, which grew as the work progressed; Monroe County from its humble beginning having been, through the untiring energy and perseverance of its pioneers, brought to be one of the finest counties in the State of Wisconsin, holds indeed a wonderful story of progress; its two cities, built to stay, whose schools, churches and institutions are equal to any in the state, whose people are progressive and possess a fine sense of civic pride are alone worthy of the efforts of the historian; in addition to that its beautiful little villages, its rich agricultural resources and dairying interests place it in the front rank in many respects.

In preparing the account of the Indian tribes the editor wishes to acknowledge the valuable material secured from Lawson's "History of Winnebago County"; the uniform courtesy and helpfulness of the various newspaper editors of the county has been of immense value.

In gathering the great mass of material necessary for this

important work the editors have had to arrange, sort out and select such as was of historical interest which could be regarded as correct; that there are omissions on some subjects, there can be no doubt but the instances of this are almost wholly brought about by the neglect of parties called upon, and in whose possession facts alone were, have caused such omissions, but the editors believe that nothing of important historical value has been left out and have endeavored to cover every representative subject and the story of every interest has been related impartially.

R. A. RICHARDS,
Editor-in-Chief.

1912.

EDITOR'S NOTE

All the biographical sketches published in this history were submitted to their respective subjects, or to the subscribers from whom the facts were primarily obtained, for their approval or correction before going to press, and a reasonable time was allowed in each case for the return of the typewritten copies. Most of them were returned to us within the time allotted, or before the work was printed, after being corrected or revised, and these therefore may be regarded as reasonably accurate.

A few, however, were not returned to us, and, as we have no means of knowing whether they contain errors or not, we cannot vouch for their accuracy. In justice to our readers, and to render this work valuable for reference purposes, we have indicated these uncorrected sketches by a small asterisk (*) placed immediately after the name of the subject.

C. F. COOPER & CO.

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History of Monroe County

CHAPTER I.

THE MENOMINEE TRIBE.

Perhaps not as closely identified with the earlier days in this section of the state as the Winnebago Indians, still the Menominee tribe played its part in the history of the territory in which Monroe county is situated, especially as members of the tribe in large numbers crossed the state from the eastern side frequently to trade and from this tribe came the noted chief, Tomah, whose name the city of Tomah now bears.

The Winnebago and Fox tribes were the first Indian nations in this section of the country and as they gradually withdrew before the advance of civilization, the Menominee tribe followed them; by the treaty of 1836 this tribe came to the territory around Neenah and occupied Winnebago county for a long number of years. They were there when the first settlers came and left numerous traces of their occupancy in that county; they were of great assistance to Marquette, the explorer on his visit to the Western Territory and were not as warlike a tribe as the Winnebago, but were said to have been good-natured but selfish and avaricious; although they did not steal or lie and the men made brave warriors.

Their war parties traveled far and aided the French in the battle of Detroit against the Fox and other tribes, they assisted in the ambush in Monongahela. They were with Langlade fighting under the banner of the French, when Montcalm fell on the plains of Abraham; they fought under Burgoyne at his invasion from the North and at Bennington, so that their exploits for a long series of years had made them a tribe to be reckoned with. After the War of 1812 the Americans maintained an Army Post at Prairie du Chien where the Menominees often camped and frequently wintered in the Mississippi valley. The first

missionary among them was a Frenchman by the name of Allouez in 1669 and since that time they have been under the teachings of many good priests, among whom have been Andre and Marquette, and they now have their churches, schools and missions at Keshena, but to them cling some of their weird songs and customs and they still propitiate the Manitou of the red man with offerings of tobacco and presents and make provision for the journey of the dead to the "Happy Hunting Ground."

In 1848 the Menominee tribe had to cede all their lands in Wisconsin at the treaty of Poygan and they were removed to Minnesota, but the district assigned them, not being found suitable to their wants, they were, with the consent of the Wisconsin Legislature, allowed to remain in this state.

In 1852 they were removed to their reservation on the Wolfe river, nine miles north of Shawano, containing 276,480 acres of timber lands. This removal caused them much distress and the next year, Oshkosh, the renowned chief of this tribe, represented to the Government that his tribe had never been so poor and destitute of provisions.

Perhaps the most celebrated of the chiefs was "Old King," who died in 1821 at the age of 100 years. This old fellow had a varied career. His village was situated north of Green Bay and he resisted all attempts of the Government to move him west of the Mississippi, and in 1852 led most of the tribe up the Wolfe river to their present reservation within a few miles of their ancient home. His grandson was Chief Oshkosh, after whom the city of Oshkosh was named. The Americans had a small garrison in the old fort at Mackinac Island at the outbreak of the War of 1812. Col. Robert Dixon organized a band of Wisconsin Indians, including the Menominees under their then chief, Tomah; with Oshkosh in the party they proceeded by boats and canoes from Green Bay and there captured the stockade without any loss on either side. During the war the Americans could not repossess the fort. Colonel Dixon with the Fox river Indians, including the Menominee tribe under Tomah, defended the fort in a hard battle with the Americans to capture the stronghold in 1814.

Major Holmes was killed and a chief named Wee-kah, of the Menominee tribe was killed near the same spot. In 1813 Oshkosh went on the warpath with Tecumseh against Fort Meigs and later under Proctor and Dixon attacked Fort Sandusky; this chief was no doubt with the Menominee war parties which frequently went out against the Chippewa Indians in the northern

and western portions of the State. He died at Keshema August 20, 1858, and a few days before his death his picture was painted by the artist Brooks, and it now hangs in the room of the historical society at Madison. Succeeding Chief Oshkosh came Neopope Oshkosh and Old Carron, the latter being said to be a son of a French trader; he was a fierce old warrior and served in all of the French wars and was with Montcalm on the plains of Abraham. Then came Glade or Connote, the son of Old Carron; he was said to be an orator and a fine speaker who made sensible remarks and to the point.

Tomah was the most noted son of Old Carron, born in 1752 in Old King's Village opposite Green Bay; his life and character are given in a subsequent chapter in this work and will not be extended here. Iometah, the main war chief, was a brother of Tomah and a son of Old Carron, was born in 1772. He was an honest, quiet Indian who died at Kenosha in 1864. These are the names of some of the old chiefs of the tribe and it would, indeed, be an extensive chapter to attempt to follow out the succession down to the present time. It is sufficient to say that this tribe has followed the usual course of Indian tribes, degenerated somewhat from the fine physique of the earlier Indians and cursed with the usual appetite of the Indians for the "fire-water," as they term it. Some of the children have been sent to the schools at Carlyle, Pennsylvania, made good progress and the average number of them became good citizens; gradually the tribe is undergoing that change which will bring them from their partial state of ignorance into that of education and civilization.

CHAPTER II.

THE WINNEBAGO TRIBE.

ORIGIN.

Closely connected with the events surrounding the earliest settlement of western Wisconsin is the history of the Winnebago and Menominee tribes, who roamed all this section of the country as early as 1632. Archeologists have concluded that the Winnebago was the first tribe of Indians who came to Wisconsin, as they made their first home on Doty island, and were there visited by Nicolet, the first white man to come to Wisconsin, and this war-loving tribe of savages were so prominent in pioneer days they became the most important tribe in the state. Recent investigations have led many students of Indian history to suppose that the Winnebago were builders of the mounds. They have been phonetically assigned to the Siouan family of Indians, a family which originated on the Atlantic coast.

The Siouan tribes occupied a vast region, 70,000 square miles in extent, along the eastern foothills of the southern Alleghanies, from the Potomac on the north to the Santee river on the south, including all central Virginia, or one-half the area of the state, and two-thirds of North Carolina, and all the northeastern portion of South Carolina, with an Atlantic coast line of 200 miles in the Carolinas. The Carawba and other cognate tribes of the Siouan stock related by archeologists through a study of scraps of their language occupied parts of these regions down to a very late date. This region is regarded as the "original home of the Siouan race." That the migration of the tribes of the plains was from the East is evident from "the older dialetic forms to be met with in the East, and the concurrent testimony of the Siouan tribes themselves." The language of the East was older in its forms than the cognate dialects of the West. The movement was doubtless by tribes and slow, constantly fighting their way along the pathway to their future home. After crossing the mountains they passed down the New and Big Sandy rivers to the Ohio, down which they slowly passed, remaining a long time

at the falls of the Ohio, now Louisville. As early as 1701, Gravier said, the Ohio was known to the Illinois and Miami as the "river of the Arkansa." The name of the tribe is now Kansa or Quapaw of the Winnebago branch of the Siouan stock, living then on the lower Arkansas river. Traditions of the Osage, Mandan and almost all the tribes confirm this. Two of the plains tribes, the Kansa, cherish sacred shells which they assert were brought with them "from the great river of the sunrise." It is possible that the Winnebagos also brought the sea shells with them. They have been found in large numbers in Wisconsin. Mr. Clarence Olen, of Oshkosh, has several picked up in Winnebago County. When the migration took place is not known. Doubtless it was of gradual progress during several centuries. When De Soto looked over the broad Mississippi from the Chaska mounds at Memphis in 1541 he found these "Capaha," or Kwapa, the southern branch of the Winnebago, already established on the western bank, though still a considerable distance north of their later location "down the river," the converse of Omaha, which means "up the river." In their slow march towards the setting sun the Kwapa probably brought up the rear, as their name lingered longest in the traditions of the Ohio tribes, and they were still near that stream when encountered by DeSoto.

The principle reason of this movement from Virginia was the presence, both North and South of powerful and hostile tribes leaving them only one way of retreat across the mountains. As late as 1728, as mentioned by Byrd, the Iroquois had "an implacable hatred" for "the Siouan tribes of the South," who still clung to their ancestral domain. From the mouth of the Ohio the Winnebago worked their way up the Mississippi. As they are first known from Champlain's map (1632) as located on Lake Winnebago it is supposed they made the journey by the Wisconsin river to the Portage into the Fox river, where they descended to the spot on the Doty island, under wide branching oaks and elms, which they occupied so many years. There is evidence in their traditional wars with the Illinois, the Menominees, the Potawatomi, Sauk and Foxes, that the maintenances of this Siouan wedge in the beautiful region of lake, forest and prairie, occupied very soon for hundreds of miles in all directions by Algonquin tribes, was attended by constant and bloody warfare.

The oldest map of the region, now known as Lake Winnebago and the Fox river, is Champlain's map of 1632, on which he names the "Nation des Puans" on a lake named "Lac des Puans," which discharges itself through a long river to Lake

Superior. That the map was intended to represent Lake Winnebago and the Fox river is now accepted and seems the correct interpretation from the latter known habitat of the Winnebago. The map is said to be made up from information furnished by Western Indians visiting Quebec. It furnishes the evidence that both Lake Winnebago and the Fox river were the earliest names of all the physical objects in Wisconsin, and the lake has ever since retained the name given it by Champlain, two years before any white man had been within several hundred miles of the state.

It was two years after the date of this map that Nicolet visited Wisconsin in 1634, "delegated to make a journey to the nation called 'Gens de mer,' People of the Sea, and arranged peace between them and the Hurons, from whom they are distant about three hundred leagues westward." The account of Nicolet's journey was not published until 1643, nearly ten years after his visit, and then only mentioned as an incident in western travel, giving such vague description of places and topography that it was not until over two hundred years afterward that John G. Shea discovered, in 1852, that "Gens de mer," the People of the Sea, referred to the Winnebago, and that Nicolet visited Wisconsin; and the year (1634) of his coming was not settled until 1876. In 1643 Jean Boisoeau's map was published, in which he followed the main topography features of Champlain's map, placing "La Nation des Puans" on "La des Puans" and named the river from which it discharged "R des Puans."

Charlevoix, who visited the tribe in 1720, names them "the Otchagras, who are commonly called Puans." Father Hennepin in his map 1697 has this same name spelled Ocitigan placed against Lake Winnebago. The name by which the Winnebago are best known to all the old French writers is "Puans" or "Puants." This is said to have been an erroneous retranslation by the French of the Algonquin name for the tribe, which was Ovenibigoutz. It is from the English spelling, and the French Oui being pronounced as "we," and the free pronunciation of the Algonquin name, handed down in the Jesuit Relations, that the modern name is derived; and the Bureau of American Ethnology have determined that the plural of Winnebago shall be the same as the singular.

Most writers have amused themselves by giving the reason why the Winnebago were called Puans. The French word for Ouenibigoutz of their Indian neighbors, the meaning of which was feted or putrid or foul-smelling as variously given. It has

been noticed that as early as 1632 and 1643 the tribe and Lake Winnebago, where they lived, and the Fox river had all been named Puans. No one knows why their neighbors gave them this name. As long as 1720 Charlevoix had said they were called "Puans, for what reason I do not know." Yet he did try an explanation: "They seated themselves on the border of a kind of lake (Winnebago), and I judge it was there that living on fish which they got in the lake in great plenty they were given the name of Puans, because all along the shore where their cabins were built one saw nothing but stinking fish, which infected the air. It appears at least that this is the origin of the name which the other savages had given them before us, and which has communicated itself to the Bay." John G. Shea says their name Ouenibigoutz given them by the Algonquins, means "feted," therefore the French translated it by the "Puants."

The name of Puans was frequently more roughly translated "stinkards," as used by Augustin Grignon as late as 1857. In 1816 Mr. Biddle mentions, "the Winnebago, a bold and warlike tribe, who lived at Lake Au Paunt or Stinking Lake, now Lake Winnebago"; and the eccentric student of English, Radisson, wrote of them in 1659, as at "the great lake of the Stinkings"; while Allouez, before his visit to them, mentions their lake of "the Stinkards" in 1666, so that this "ill smelling" name has clung to the tribe through all the centuries down to the present moment.

The explanation of their name is simple when relieved from the numerous explanations that have been given, for the most part erroneous. Dr. Dorsey, a student of the Siouan language, says the Siouan root Changa or Hanga signified first, foremost, original, ancestral. Thus the Winnebago call themselves Hochanga-ra, "the people speaking the original language." The student of dialect can easily trace in the various spelling quoted above the attempt to reduce the gutteral sounds of the Winnebago name to a written language, though their explanation and definitions have often gone far afield. Their name as known to the whites, however, is not so easy to understand. The migrating Algonquin tribes despised the Winnebago, as they were of a different stock, speaking a different language, and tried at once to drive them out; but these savages were no match for the Winnebago, who had the power by numbers or prowess to maintain their place in their new home. If the name by which they were called by these Algonquin neighbors, Ouenibigoutz, had been translated at Quebec when first heard by the French,

as mean, base or vile in place of Puans, it would have more correctly expressed as intended the extreme disfavor of their neighbors, and this is the rational explanation of the name which has come down to us as Winnebago.

Perrot, as related by La Potherie as the earliest traditions of the tribe, gives the circumstances of their fall as their disregard of others' rights. He says the nation was populous, very redoubtable, spared no one and violated all the laws of nature, as they were Sodomites, and even had intercourse with beasts. If any stranger came among them he was cooked in their kettles. They declared war on all the other nations, though they had only stone hatchets and knives. When the Ottawa sent envoys to them they were eaten; and then the nations formed an alliance against them, which occasioned civil war among themselves. They finally united all their forces in one village of five thousand men; but an epidemic occurred which reduced them to one thousand five hundred. "Despite all these misfortunes they sent a party of five hundred warriors against the Foxes, who dwelt on the other shore of the lake, but they perished in a tempest." It is supposed this was on Little Lake Butte des Morts, as it had been stated the Puans resided on an island which it is supposed was Doty island, where they had lived from the earliest times; and the Fox tribes resided on the opposite side of the lake from very early time. Reduced to despair and famine the other nations took pity on them, ceased to make war, and the Illinois sent five hundred men, including "fifty of the most prominent persons in their nation," to carry them a supply of provisions. "Those man eaters received them with the utmost gratitude," but at the same time meditated sacrificing the Illinois to the shades of their dead. A large cabin was erected to lodge their guests, but while the Illinois were dancing their bow strings were cut and the Winnebago "threw themselves on the Illinois and massacred them, not sparing one man, and made a general feast of their flesh." In a few years the Illinois assembled a large army, composed of all the nations, and came to avenge their dead. "Having reached the island (Doty island) over the ice they found only cabins—the Winnebago had gone to their hunt—traveling in a body—that they might not be surprised by the Illinois." The hostile army followed the hunters in the dead of winter, coming up to them on the sixth day, and laid siege to their camp. "So vigorous was their attack that they killed, wounded or made prisoners all the Puans except a few who escaped, and who reached the Menominee village, but severely

wounded by arrows." He again refers to these traditional events as those of "the ancestors" of the tribe as he knew them, and which refers to "ancestors of" the Puans of possibly 1660. There is no record to say how many years before, though it is doubtless several score, for fifty years before La Potherie was published Rev. Jean Claude Allouez had told this same story of the massacre of the Winnebago by the Illinois as "about thirty years ago," which would be in the year 1640; "all the people of the nation were killed or taken captive by the Illinois, with the exception of a single man, who escaped, shot through the body with an arrow," and adds that when the captives were permitted to return to their homes this one was made a chief as having never been a slave. John G. Shea, commenting on this disastrous defeat of the Winnebago, says, if this strange event took place at all we must ascribe it to an earlier date than 1634, when visited by Nicolet, who found them prosperous, and we can hardly suppose a tribe almost annihilated and then restored to its former numbers in thirty years.

NICOLET COMES TO DOTY ISLAND.

Jean Nicolet was the first white man to visit the Winnebago. He was sent over these unknown lakes and rivers by Governor Champlain to make a treaty of peace between the Winnebago and the Hurons of Canada. He visited them with seven Huron savages in the summer of 1634, returning home the next year. As he approached their village, word was sent in advance to announce his mission, and the Winnebago sent out envoys to meet him, who gave him a warm welcome and carried his baggage. Word was sent out to the surrounding savages, and a great council was held with five thousand men, who indulged themselves in a barbaric banquet, in which the choicest dish was six score beaver tails. This was the first council held with the Indians in the region erected into the State of Wisconsin. There is no contemporary narrative inspired by Nicolet which gives a hint of the place at which this council was held, or the location of the Winnebago village, which was the objective point of Nicolet's voyage. The habitat of the Winnebago during this period must therefore be sought from other narratives and maps, and these clearly show the Winnebago village of 1634, and for two hundred years thereafter, to have been at the foot of Lake Winnebago, and from the later accounts, which give a more exact locus in quo, on Doty island, on what is now the cities of Menasha

and Neenah, on the Fox river, yet on the shore of Lake Winnebago.

It has been therefore stated that Champlain's map of 1632, made two years before Nicolet's visit named the "Nation des Puans," on "Lac des Puans." Also the map of Jean Boisseau's of 1643 which is found in Lennox Library in New York, and published in "Jesuit Relations," has "La Nation des Puans," on "Las des Puans," which discharges through "R. des Puans." The next map to mention the tribe is that of Marquette. His journal of the famous voyage through the river valley was published in Paris by Thevenot in 1681, with his real map of the voyage. It places the "Puans" village at the foot of Lake Winnebago. The master of this voyage was Joliet, and his map also places the "Puans" village at the foot of Lake of the Winnebago. Father Hennepin also places the word "Ocitagan" against Lake Winnebago on his map, dated 1698. He also was a traveler among them and this is his attempt to spell their own name, rendered by the Nicolet century while those of the next century, which show the village, all place it at the foot of the lake, which always bore their name.

There is no historic reference narrative of travel or maps which places the Winnebago at any location other than Lake Winnebago during the century in which Nicolet visited the region, nor until 1760 when they seem to have divided into three villages with their head village still on Lake Winnebago.

Perrot visited the Fox river region for a number of years, and took some of the Winnebago with the other tribes to the great council at Sault Ste. Marie when Sr. Lusson took formal possession of the West, in the name of the French king. In 1690, while in this valley, the Fox tribes who resided on the west shore of the Little Lake Butte des Morts, contemplated treachery to Perrot, and he was informed of their intentions by the "chief of the Puans," who acted as his messenger and remained his steadfast friend. He advised and helped to prevent the Foxes making an alliance with the Iroquois of New York, which they contemplated, and Perrot was determined to prevent.

IN THE FOX WARS.

Later in the long Fox war they formed a third party in an alliance between the Foxes and Sauk, and were ever present with the Foxes in that long battle which they raged against the French throughout the Fox river valley and the prairie of the

Illinois. This was the war to save the region of the golden fleece to the fur trade of France, in which the war whoop of the Foxes was heard around the world; "a dreary half century of spasmodic conflict, which absorbed the attention and helped to drain the treasury of New France, contributing not a little to her downfall"; meanwhile, as Bancroft remarks, the "Foxes were a nation, passionate and untamable, springing up into new life from every defeat, and though reduced in the number of their warriors, yet present everywhere by their ferocious enterprise and savage daring." Throughout those long years of frontier warfare the Winnebago were everywhere the silent allies, wearing the livery of the forest and committing the terror of their name to strike dismay to the border post. And though the Foxes are mostly mentioned the French were aware of close friendship to their allies, the Winnebago. As early as 1714 Ramezay had reported the Winnebago as friendly to the Foxes, which date the colonial office at Paris had determined on the extermination of the Fox tribe. At this time Father Marest writes the governor that "the Puans were sixty brave men, all boatmen."

The long enmity between the Winnebago and the Illinois was a part of the French war, and a relic of ancient days when the Winnebago had been almost destroyed by the Illinois. The Winnebago were with the Foxes in their raids against this tribe in 1723. Captain DeLignery was sent up the river in 1724, and called a council of the tribes at the old French fort at Green Bay. Those present were the Winnebago, Foxes, and Sauk. The council to induce the tribes to cease their war on the Illinois was fruitless, as the Winnebago declared the Illinois retained some of their tribe prisoners, and an exchange must be effected before a treaty. However, the difference seemed to have been compromised, as at a council held by the same officer June 7, 1726, with the Winnebago, Foxes, and Sauk, a treaty was settled by which these tribes consented not to fight the Illinois again. Very soon after this, however, war broke out afresh and the frontier rang with the savage war cry.

The French had sent an army against the Fox palisade or Fort village on the west shore of Little Lake Butte des Morts, under de Louvigny, in 1716, opposite the Winnebago village on the eastern shore. The three days' battle and siege had resulted in a treaty of peace, but in which the French had no confidence. They determined to establish a post in the border of the Sioux country to prevent an alliance with the Foxes and that powerful

tribe of the plains. This equipment with soldiers and goods for trade made their way over Fox river towards the head of Lake Pepin, to establish this post. The journal of the voyage was made by Father Guignes. As they passed the Fox river he says of the visit to the Winnebago, August 14, 1727: "The chief met him there three leagues from their village with peace calumets and refreshments of bears' meat, and escorted them into their village mid discharge of musketry and great demonstrations of joy, requesting them to remain some time. There were sixty to eighty men in the village. Both men and women are tall and well built. They are located on the borders of a pretty lake at thirty-five miles from LaBaye and eight leagues from the Foxes." The Foxes seem to have been on the upper Fox river at this season.

When Captain DeLignery arrived at LaBaye with his expedition against the Foxes, composed of four hundred fifty Frenchmen and one thousand two hundred savages, in the month of August, 1728, he captured three Winnebago whom he handed over to the tribes. They put them to death with slow torture and ate them. He then pushed on up the Fox river to the village of the Winnebago on the Doty island, which had been abandoned several days before, and burned the wigwams and fort, and ravaged their fields of Indian corn, which is their principal article of food.

In pursuance of their policy to combine all the tribes against the Foxes, the French in some manner bought over the Winnebago, the lifelong friends of the Foxes and Sauk. So we read that in the autumn of 1729 word was brought to Quebec by information given by the Indians, of an attack by the Winnebago, Ottawa and Menominee on a Fox village, in which there were killed one hundred Fox warriors and seventy women and children. Among the killed of the assaulting party were four of the Winnebago. The Winnebago having broken up their neighbors and friends, the Foxes, by the treacherous and unprovoked slaughter, were now in terror for the consequences of their miserable acts. Further attempts against the Fox tribe were projected from Quebec and by the fall of 1729 Sieur Captain Marin appeared at the old French fort at Green Bay and repaired its fallen roofs. He had with him ten Frenchmen. On September 10 the Winnebago returned from their hunt and went to Marin to assure him that they still remained faithful to the French, presenting him with three slaves. They were rewarded by powder, bullets, hatchets, guns and knives. Some days after, having ascertained that the Foxes were not in the country, the

Winnebago took their families and camped on Dendo island, where "their former fort stood." But very soon the Foxes and Sauk surprised some Winnebago fisherman, and then began a long siege of the Winnebago, by erecting on the Doty island water side two forts to command the water in all directions. The siege lasted two months; but was finally abandoned after Marin came with the Menominee to aid the Winnebago.

Before 1739, after being at enmity with the Foxes for ten years, the old friendship was revived, and at a council in Quebec, held that year with the western savages, the Winnebago chief spoke for mercy for the Foxes, some representatives of whom were present. The following year, at a council held in Montreal, the Winnebago chief again spoke for the good will of the French for "their kinsman, the Foxes and Sauk." The next year they appeared in Montreal again and reported they had returned to their home on Doty island. While at a council at Quebec the next year the Mayoba, chief of the Mascoutins, whispered to Beauharnois that the Winnebago sought refuge in their village the year before, as they feared the Foxes. At this council the Winnebago said half of their village had returned to its old home and half was at Rock river. The Rock river band were notified to join the Fox river band and form one village. Serotchon and Chelanois were Winnebago chiefs present and promised medals by Beauharnois; but he had none then to bestow, they must wait until next year. Sieur de Clignaucourt had sole right in 1747 to trade at Green Bay with the Winnebago.

IN OTHER BORDER WARS.

By some very ancient maps in possession of Mr. Hames B. Albrigt, of Milwaukee, which bear dates of 1755, 1756, 1757, the "Otchagras" village is marked against Lake Winnebago. About this time the De Langlades had settled in Wisconsin as the first pioneers, and in a few years the great war between France and England has its influence on this farthest frontier, where the bold warrior, Captain Charles de Langlade, was appointed to command the western tribes. With his motley throng of savages there were about one hundred Winnebago, and midst the din of Braddock's defeat was "mingled the blood curdling screech of the Winnebago." They were at the council, with Montcalm, on the banks of Lake George; and at the massacre of Fort William Henry, and at the fall of Quebec.

After the Fleur de Lis was hauled down from Quebec and

England took all Canada under her authority, commandants and soldiers were sent west to assume command of the ancient border posts, which had been under the gentle sway of France since the first white men came. By 1762 Lieut. James Gorrell was in command of the remnants of the old French fort at Green Bay, and held a council with the Winnebago chief, who promised to send the belt he had received to the other two chiefs of his nation. He reports soon after that "a chief belonging to a second Puans town arrived." In August the Winnebago chief from the third town came and declared he had never fought against the English. They all requested a gunsmith, a trader and rum. The following summer (1763), when Captain Etherington, after the massacre at Old Mackinaw, sent word to Gorrell to go to him with the garrison, the Winnebago were among the four Indian tribes which formed his escort.

In his Journal Lieut. James Gorrell reports of the "Indian warriors, besides women and children depending on the post at Green Bay," there were "Puans, 150 at the end of Puan's lake (Winnebago) and over against Louistonant." It was in 1766 that the celebrated Capt. Jonathan Carver made his voyage up the historic Fox river and pased four days enjoying the hospitality of the Winnebago village on Doty island, then presided over by their queen, Glory of the Morning, or Hopokoekau, who had married Sebrevoir De Carrie, an officer of the French army, who after resigning in 1729 became the first trader among the Winnebago. Three sons and one daughter were born to the union. He reëntered the army and died for his flag before Quebec, April 28, 1760. Captain Carver called the village "the great town of Winnebago," and said it contained fifty houses which were strongly built with palisades.

During the war of the Revolution there was not a friend of the colonists in all Wisconsin, and Capt. Charles de Langlade, now in the red uniform of a British officer, recruited his dusky troops from among the Winnebago to join Burgoyne's invasion, but all had abandoned the English general before his surrender. The Winnebago received a war belt from De Peyster, in command at Old Mackinaw, and had notice to be ready to go to Hamilton's aid, at Vincennes, in the autumn of 1778. In the party of savages who went down the Mississippi in the spring to aid Hamilton, but returned on receiving word of his surrender to George Roger Clark, there were Winnebago. On their return to old Mackinaw with Goutier the Winnebago were at once sent (in June, 1779) south through Michigan to commit depredations and "bring in

some prisoners." The Winnebago repaired to Montreal with other western savages under De Langlade, and returned on news of the operations of George Roger Clark in Illinois. When Lieutenant-Governor Sinclair sent the army of savages under Captain de Langlade to the massacre of St. Louis, there was a band of Winnebago, as usual, in his party. The assault on the embankment at the stone warehouse was made by the Winnebago, who left one chief and three warriors dead on the parapet, while four others were badly wounded, the only casualty of the expedition. Governor Sinclair reports in July, 1780, sending sixty Winnebago and a party of other Indians south to the Ohio and Wabash rivers to intercept convoys of provisions intended for Americans in the Illinois region.

After the close of the Revolutionary war the British fur trader had no intention of giving up the rich fur bearing region of Wisconsin, and began at once to keep the savages in good feeling, by a liberal distribution of presents, an annual favor which was accorded the Winnebago and others for many years and until after the close of the last war in 1815. At the instance of the merchants of Montreal in 1787, after the cession of the region now Wisconsin, the British sent Mr. Ainsee up the Fox river to the Mississippi with a "canoe loaded with thirteen bales of goods" for presents to Wisconsin savages. At the Portage he "assembled all the Puants to give them a speech and made them presents of goods, rum and tobacco." In the same report Ainsee gives the number of Puants as 340 men in "the village of the Puants altogether."

The principal or head village of the Winnebago was still on Lake Winnebago, as it had been since long prior to the coming of Nicolet in 1634. The first record of any other village was the reference given from Gorrell in 1762. During the Revolution, when Goutier took to the woods on snowshoes to rouse the clans for the spring campaign in 1778, he mentions "the great village of the Puants of the lake, which was the strongest one."

Antoine LeClaire, a trader who settled in Milwaukee in 1800, mentions sending out "engages" to trade with the Indians, "on Winnebago lake to the Winnebago." The merchants of Montreal reported to the agents of the crown, in 1786, that the Winnebago numbered six hundred men, and had their first village only twelve leagues (thirty miles) from "LaBaye," and being on the road to the Mississippi, they are frequently troublesome to the traders passing. This system of claiming to own the river and exacting presents for the right to pass had been practiced for

many years by the tribe, and had been a frequent cause of strife between the Winnebago on Doty island and the numerous traders obliged to stem the tides of the Fox river to reach their posts along the Mississippi river.

The frontier disquiet of the Indians, inspired by British agents, finally resulted in sending Mad Anthony Wayne into the border lands of Ohio, where he fought several successful battles with the savages, the most desperate and successful one being that near Maumee City, in Ohio, on the 30th day of August, 1794. The Winnebago had been led into these border troubles and were among the savages defeated in that disastrous battle. Mr. William J. Snelling relates that he remembers a Winnebago at the Wisconsin portage who met travelers with a human hand dangling on his breast, which he had taken from a Yankee soldier at Tippecanoe, and says sixty Winnebago were killed in that battle. The last war with England was declared on June 19, 1812, by the President's proclamation. Before it was possible to reinforce the small garrison at Fort Mackinaw, on the island of that name, it was surprised and captured and held during the war as a rally outpost of the British, from which the savages of Wisconsin were constantly recruited to add to the frontier horrors of that war. It is said that after the capture of Proctor's camp in the battle of the Thames, bales of scalps were discovered on which had been paid a bounty by the British agents. The Winnebago took part in many of the important movements of the British on the western border. When Col. Robert Dickson, the "Red Head," gathered the tribes for the English in 1812, he ran into Green Bay with 100 Sioux, and enlisted Tomah and the Grizzly Bear with 100 Menominee, and a large body of Winnebago led by Teal, One-eyed Decorah and other chiefs. They voyaged over to Mackinac island and captured the fort from the Americans, July 17, 1812, without a blow, after which the Winnebago and Sioux returned home. In the spring of 1813, when Colonel Dickson rallied the clans again for the war, there sailed out of the Fox river on his train, beside the Sioux and Menominee, a considerable band of Winnebago under their chiefs, Old Decorah, Carrymaunee, Winnocheek, Pesheu, or the Wild Cat, Sausamaunee, Black Wolf, Sarcel, or the Teal, and Neokautah, or Four Legs, with Michael Brisbois as their interpreter. Arriving at Fort Meigs too late for the action, they retired to Detroit, from whence they sailed under Proctor and Dickson to Sandusky and attacked the fort so gallantly defended by the young Maj. George Croghan, where they were defeated. In June, 1813,

Colonel Dickson emerged at Mackinac from a long sojourn among the Wisconsin tribes, bringing with him 600 savages and their families, to be sent to General Proctor as a part of his force. There were 130 Winnebago in the party. After eating nearly all of Proctor's available provisions and committing wanton depredations on the settlers' live stock the Wisconsin Indians returned home. During the winter of 1813-14 a delegation of Wisconsin savages visited Quebec, where they were warmly welcomed by Sir George Prevost. The Winnebago were represented by Lassamic.

The expedition under the British Col. William McKay, which surprised and captured the American fort Shelby at Prairie Du Chien, July 17, 1814, had with them a band of 100 Winnebago under their chiefs, Pesheu or Wild Cat, Sarcel or Teal, Carrymaunee, Winnocheek, Sar-ra-chau, Neokautah or Four Legs, and Black Wolf. As McKay's fleet of barges and canoes floated down the Wisconsin, a Winnebago was in the party of scouts, who went under cover of night into the town and captured a citizen, whom they carried away to get information. In deploying before the fort the Winnebago took post above the fort. Two of the Winnebago, discovering some hams in a house, mounted to the roof and began to tear off the shingles to gain an entrance and were both shot in the thigh. On the second day of the siege Colonel McKay assembled the Indian chiefs and requested their consent to an assault, but the Winnebago chief, Sarcel or the Teal, demurred, saying he and his people remembered taking part with the English in assaulting an American fort, when they were beaten back with terrible slaughter. Sarcel proposed to dig a trench in the sand and blow up the fort, to which Colonel McKay agreed; but after a few hours' labor the Indians tired of the work and refused to go ahead. After the surrender, and just before the time appointed for the Americans to give up their arms, a Winnebago cut off the finger of a soldier whose hand was thrust through a port hole in friendly greeting. In his reports Colonel McKay mentions the Winnebago as in the Indian contingent, and says of them that they were "perfectly useless to him," and severely criticises them. They would not receive officers' orders unless he "held a blanket in one hand and a piece of pork in another."

Col. Robert Dickson on his way to the British garrison at Prairie Du Chien in the fall of 1814, caught by the freezing of Lake Winnebago at Doty Island and forced to remain the winter, writes in the spring: "I shall move from this as soon as I can,

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as the Puants are beginning to draw around me, and one had as well be in hell as with them." After the peace the British held a council June 3, 1815, at Mackinaw, between Sau-sa-mau-nee, Black Wolf, Neokautah or Four Legs, and forty warriors. Sau-sa-mau-nee was the orator for his people and his speech is recorded. Judge Lockwood reports their number in 1816 as 900 warriors, from estimates of the traders best acquainted with them. The treaty made with a portion of the Fox tribes November 3, 1804, which caused so much dissatisfaction among members of that tribe, was confirmed at a council held at St. Louis, May 18, 1816, at which those Winnebago present, residents of Wisconsin, confirmed that part of the treaty which was supposed to grant their rights in the lands of the lead region.

THE NEW YORK INDIANS.

The Winnebago were involved in the immigration of the New York Indians by the range of their hunting grounds. The Winnebago and Menominee, August 18, 1821, granted to the New York tribes a ribbon of land diagonally across the state five miles wide, the strip crossing the Fox river at Little Chute. At this time the Menominee claimed all Green Bay and the shore of Lake Michigan to the mouth of the Milwaukee river and west to the Mississippi river in a northwest direction. The Winnebago claimed all the balance of the state north and west of the Fox river and Lake Winnebago. The following summer the New York Indians returned to urge a larger grant; but on coming into a council the Winnebago refused to concede any further grants and left in a body to go on their hunt. Before leaving, however, they were induced to favor the visitor with an exhibition of their war dance, pipe dance and begging dance, which are graphically described by General Ellis, who adds: "The Winnebago exhibited the largest, most perfectly formed men and women ever seen anywhere. The display of action and muscle in the dances struck the beholder with admiration and terror. The ring around the dancers of several thousand, all singing in chorus to the chief drummer, the voices of the Winnebago women prevailing in clarion tone above the whole." August 11, 1827, was a treaty concluded at the Little Butte des Morts, "the Hill of the Dead," on the west bank of the lake of that name, now in the town of Menasha, between the Winnebago, Menominee and New York Indians, by which the above tribes ceded their lands in the Fox valley to the United States. Lewis Cass and

Thos. L. McKinney were the commissioners. This council was held during the Winnebago war, so called. It was attended by five thousand savages. Colonel Whistler, while on his journey up the Fox river from Fort Howard to join General Atkinson at Portage, remained with his regiment at the Little Butte des Morts as the Governor's guard until the close of the council, when he resumed his journey up stream. During the council the Winnebago were notified that they must give up the murderers. It is said to have been due to this council that brought the surrender at Portage the next month on the arrival of Colonel Whistler. There is a painting of the Little Butte des Morts council made by Lewis, "painted on the spot," in his rare portfolio of frontier scenes.

The Winnebago war took place in 1827. It was not a war, but only a widespread scare to the few pioneers who had come to settle in the far away lands of the west. Those who mention the events of that day generally agree that the energetic movements of Governor Lewis Cass, and the promptness of the militia under Gen. Henry Dodge, and the dispatch of General Atkinson with the United States army into the field, inspired the Winnebago with such respect for the power of the United States that the incipient disturbance was quelled before it was barely commenced. As there were at that time nearly nine thousand Winnebago, they could have set the torch to the whole frontier before being conquered. At that period there was a small settlement of whites at Green Bay, another at Prairie du Chien, and possibly seven hundred people in the lead region south of the Wisconsin river. Fort Winnebago was then erected at Portage as a protection to the frontier from any Winnebago treachery.

IN SETTLEMENT DAYS.

By this time the tribe had very much increased in numbers, and were scattered all along the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. Mrs. John Kinzie reports in "Wau Bun," in 1830, two divisions of Winnebago Indians, "one paid by the agent at Portage and the other at Prairie du Chien." "The Portage division numbered between four and five thousand." At the Winnebago annuity payment in 1834, Mr. Henry Merrill says there assembled at Portage upwards of three thousand men, women and children. Mr. McCall reports in 1830, "Four thousand Winnebago in the nation."

The smallpox scourge broke out in the tribe in 1834 and raged a fearful epidemic, from which nearly half the tribe died. The

medicine men abandoned their futile attempts to stay its ravages, and the pest swept through the villages, and survivors fleeing before it, leaving their dead unburied.

The delegates who visited Washington in 1837 to make a treaty had no authority to conclude a treaty, and so declared. That was the treaty (Nov. 1, 1837,) by which all the lands of the Winnebago east of the Mississippi were ceded to the United States. It was loudly proclaimed by the tribe to be a fraud. Chief Yellow Thunder, whose village was near Eureka, in Winnebago county, and two others were of this party, and all declared they had no right to make a treaty. The first attempt to remove the tribe was begun in 1840, when a considerable band were induced to remove to the Turkey river in Iowa. In 1837 the Winnebago, headed by One-eyed Dekaury, Little Dekaury, Winnosheek, Waukon Dekaury, and six other chiefs, went to Washington and ceded all the land still claimed by them east of the Mississippi river, reserving the privilege of occupying until 1840. That year the troops came to Portage to remove them. Yellow Thunder and Black Wolf's son were invited to Portage to get provisions, but as soon as they arrived at Portage they were put in the guardhouse with ball and chain on their ankles, which hurt their feelings, as they had done no harm. The General had understood they were going to revolt, and refused to emigrate; but as soon as Governor Dodge came to Portage they were released. They all promised faithfully to be in Portage in three days, ready for removal, and they were all there. Two large boats were provided to take down the Indians who had no canoes. At the head of Kickapoo creek they came to some wigwams, where two old women, sisters of Black Wolf, fell on their knees, crying and beseeching Captain Summer to kill them; they were old and would rather die and be buried with their fathers and mothers and children than be taken away. The Captain let them remain, and left three young men to hunt for them. Further down they came to the camp of Ke-ji-que-we-ka; the people were told to put their things in the wagon and go along. Depositing their belongings they started south from where they were when the Captain sent to ask where they were going. They said they were going to bid good-bye to their fathers, mothers and children. The interpreter followed them and found them on their knees, kissing the ground and crying very loud where their relations were buried. This touched the Captain, who exclaimed: "Good God, what harm can these poor Indians do among the rocks."

After being removed at different times to locations in Iowa,

Minnesota and Dakota, they were finally located on one hundred twenty-eight thousand acres of the northern part of the Omaha reservation in eastern Nebraska, containing some of the best timbered lands, by May, 1866. There still reside in the pine barrens of Jackson and Adams county stragglers who have returned, reported in 1887 to number one thousand six hundred. Most of these have homesteads, where they live by picking berries, fishing and hunting, with ever increasing families. Large families are the rule among the Winnebago. Green Grass, son of Kayrahmaunee, came to the payment at Black River Falls to draw for fifteen children; but could not count or name them. Major Halleck, the agent, had him bring them in and stand them in a row.

"The Winnebago as a tribe has due them $883,249.58 under their treaties of 1837 and the act of July 15, 1870, which has not been capitalized and placed in the treasury as a trust fund. Congress annually appropriates 5 per cent interest on the principal, amounting to $44,162.47. The Wisconsin band received $18,026.13 of that amount, which is paid them in cash. They also receive $7,000 each year from that amount to equalize their payments with the Nebraska branch under the act of 1881. Under that act they have reecived $147,000 and $73,969.91 is yet due them in yearly installments of $7,000. The Nebraska branch receives yearly $10,000 cash for per capita payments, and after this and the amounts due to the Wisconsin branch are deducted the remainder is subject to expenditure for supplies for the Nebraska branch. Eventually the Wisconsin branch will receive their share of the principal after it has been capitalized and segregated."

THEIR HABITS AND DOMESTIC LIFE.

There are at this writing 1,180 Winnebago listed in Wisconsin and 2,613 in Nebraska, making a total of 3,793 or about 4,000 Winnebago now living. This shows an increase in 200 years of 700 per cent, due to enforced peace; and notwithstanding the natural decimation due to smallpox, famine, habits and whisky.

Rev. Cutting Marsh crossed Doty island in 1832, and found still there a small village of Winnebago. This was the remnant of Four Leg's tribe. He was dead two years before. Three years later the Menomonee mission was established at Neenah, before which time, it is presumed, the last of those who had made this ancient village famous in border annals had moved up the river and away.

The totems of the Winnebago were the lynx, catamount, wild-

cat and stag. They dressed in the earlier days much as the primitive tribes, in the tanned skins and furs of the wild animals, as also in woven cloth. The special manner of doing their hair was to shave the sides of the head and do the hair in two square cushions on the back of the head. The artist in the Nicolet landfall, recently hung in the rooms of the State Historical Society, has taken their nakedness too literally and made a caricature of their nudeness. There is no authority for such literal nakedness. They were an industrious and thrifty people, having at all their villages wide fields of corn and vegetables. Some of these fields were several hundred acres in extent. They gathered wild rice for food also. Sat. Clark told Dr. Lapham that General Atkinson purchased 6,000 bushels of corn from the Winnebago; and in 1848 he had driven over half a mile of old Indian cornfields in Columbia county, which a pioneer had told him the Winnebago had cultivated. Their villages contained well constructed, warm cabins or wigwams, and they appeared to enjoy prosperity, notwithstanding their history contains so much war, pestilence and whisky.

Whatever may have been the truth of the matter, they seem to have the universal hatred or disfavor of all their neighbors and the whites. The whites write them down invariably filthy. It is such a general charge that one might be inclined to suppose it to be repeated by suggestion. Whether any one took the trouble to inquire if this was a domestic infirmity or only came from the supposed derivation of their name we cannot learn. One hundred years ago Capt. Thomas A. Anderson wintered on Rock river, at the foot of a precipice, 300 feet above the river, trading with the Winnebago, and long afterward said, "They are the most filthy, most obstinate and bravest people of any Indian tribe." As an instance of their independence, Hon. Morgan L. Martin relates of the guide he procured at Taycheedah, who, after leading them into the prairie, lay down and refused to proceed, saying "he had never yet been the slave of a white man and never would be."

The numerous missionaries who had gone among the Wisconsin savages seem to have made little progress with the Winnebago. The first to devote himself specially to one of the bands was Rev. Father Mazzuchelli, who, April 16, 1833, visited the Winnebago at the old Decorah village, eight miles up the Wisconsin river from Portage. Two hundred converts were made, and he translated Father Barago's Catechism from Ottawa to Winnebago, going 700 miles to Detroit to get it printed, and

returned. Pietre Paquette assisted him in talking to the savages. The Catechism when returned had eighteen pages. The influence of the missionary was such that on Mrs. Kinzie's offering wine to one of the Indian women she pointed to the cross about her neck and refused to drink.

BRANCH IN MONROE COUNTY.

From the earliest settlement bands of Winnebagoes had, at different times, established their villages temporarily in several parts of the county; no permanent location was made until right after the war of the rebellion, when a considerable number, under the chief, Ah-oo-cho-ka or "Blue Wing," settled near Water Mill, a few miles north of Tomah.

"Blue Wing" was the head of this branch of the tribe and was its chief spokesman in the councils of the tribe held at the original settlement near Winnebago Lake. He was a quiet, peaceful man, who ruled his tribe with justice, whose good qualities made him many friends among his white neighbors and the business and professional men in Tomah with whom he had dealings; he lived to the age of 103 years, and at his death he was held in such esteem that a public funeral was held in the Methodist church at Tomah, largely attended by the town people and his neighbors; a striking illustration, indeed, of the transition from savagery to civilization, a modern funeral service held over the remains of a savage attended by his own people. After the death of "Blue Wing" there was no succession as chief as the band had gradually taken up land and were, and are, getting away from the tribal relations. They in common with other members of the tribe were moved to Nebraska at the time mentioned in this chapter, but this band of about 200 came back and settled again at Water Mill, where they among them owned quite a tract of land. They enlisted the services of Harry Lea, of Tomah, who had traded with them for years, and he divided the land into ten-acre pieces, assigning one or more to the head of each family so that they became land owners and could not then be taken back to Nebraska.

In this band were two Indians who were in the army during the rebellion, an old fellow familiarly known in later years as "Sherman," because he served in the Third Wisconsin and was under General Sherman, and also a son of Chief "Blue Wing," known as "Thunder Chief."

Among them exists a secret religious organization which has

been in existence no one knows how long. It has an otter skin badge, to lose which is said to invoke a death penalty; they indulge in strange and fantastic rites and ceremonies, and no white man has ever been able to discover any of their secrets. The squaws of different branches of the tribe in general are known by the kind of work they turn out. This particular branch was noted for the beautiful bead work turned out by its women, everything from moccasins and hair bands to entire suits of buckskin, beautifully decorated in most elaborate patterns. Some of the children are sent to the Government Indian School at Tomah, although it seems to be the case that only a small percentage take advantage of the education thus acquired, but go back to the indolent tribal life.

CHAPTER III.

THE WINNEBAGO CHIEFS.

The Sachems of the great Winnebago, who have become intimately associated with the beginning of the history of Wisconsin, were either residents of Winnebago county or were sired by its ancient lords. The mother and grandmother of that noble line of Decorah chiefs, who met the pioneers of the state, was the beautiful queen of the Winnebago, "Glory of the Morning," sister of the head chief of the Winnebago tribe on Doty island, now in Menasha and Neenah, on the Fox river, at the foot of Lake Winnebago. Her Indian name was Hopokoekau, also spelled by LaRonde, Wahopoekau. Her birth was not of record. She married Sebrevior De Carrie, who was an officer in the French army in 1699 under De Boisbraint. He resigned his commission in 1729 and became the first trader in Indian goods in the county, living and trading with the Winnebago on Doty Island. During the French and Indian war De Carrie reëntered the French army and was mortally wounded before Quebec, April 28, 1760. In some of the almost daily assaults made by Wolfe upon some part of the long defenses on the bluffs of the St. Lawrence, and being taken to Montreal, died there in the hospital, and two weeks later France lost Canada forever. Three sons and two daughters were born to this union. Glory of the Morning refused to go to Montreal with her husband, and remained on her island home with her family; but De Carrie took with him one daughter, who married there Sieur Laurent Fily, a merchant of Quebec, who subsequently removed to Green Bay, where they have descendants still living in the valley. Capt. Jonathan Carver, who visited the queen in 1766 on Doty island, mentions the pleasure his attentions to the queen gave her attendants as well as herself. She received him graciously and sumptuously entertained him during the four days he remained in her village. He writes of the town that it "contained fifty houses." "The land," he says, "was very fertile; grapes, plums and other fruit grew in abundance. The Indians raised large quantities of Indian corn, beans, pumpkins, squash, watermelons and some tobacco." Mrs. Kinzie gives

a long character sketch of the ancient queen in August, 1831. "No one could tell her age; but all agreed she must have been upwards of 100. Her dimmed eyes, almost white with age; her face darkened and withered, like a baked apple; her voice tremulous and feeble, except when raised in fury—she usually went on all fours, not having strength to stand upright. On the day of the payment she received her money and crawled to the agency door to count it." Mr. Henry Merrill, writing in the year 1834, says that she "was pointed out to me several years after (1834), and I was told she must be 113 years old. She was then able to walk six or eight miles to Portage. She lived several years after, and was finally burned to death by the burning of her wigwam."

As she then lived in the village of her late grandson, Old Gray Headed Decorah, eight miles below Portage, on the west side of the Wisconsin river, she was probably buried there. She is said by some writers to have been a daughter of the head chief. It has been said of her descendants, the Decorah chiefs, that "they were generally good Indians, and frequently urged their claim to the friendship of the whites by saying they were themselves half white." They are said to have been "influential men in the nation," and Augustin Grignon says, in 1801, the "Decorahs are among the most influential of the Winnebago." Of this marriage there were two sons, whose names have been reported. The oldest was Chou Ke Ka, or Spoon Decorah or Ladle; the other was Chahpost Kaw Kaw, or the Buzzard, who settled with his band at LaCrosse about 1787.

Chou Ke Ka, also spelled Chau Ka Ka, called Spoon Decorah or Ladle, was the eldest son of Sebrevior De Carrie, says LaRonde. Augustin Grignon renders the name Chongarah. As he knew the chief in the winter of 1801-2, he reports him then as head chief of the Winnebago, and "he was then a very old man and died at Portage in 1808. By his request he was buried in a sitting posture in a coffin, placed on the surface of the ground, with a low cabin above it, surrounded with a fence." His death occurred in 1816, according to LaRonde, when he was "quite aged." It also appears that Chau Ka Ka signed the treaty of St. Louis, May 18, 1816, and therefore could not have died until after that.

Old Gray-Headed Decorah, or Old Decorah, or Gray-Headed Decorah, or White War Eagle, whose common Indian name was Schachip Ka Ka and whose Winnebago name was Warrahwikoogah, or Bird Spirit, was a son of the Ladle and a grandson of

Glory of the Morning. He died at Petenwell, the high rock on the Wisconsin river, April 20, 1836, said to have been ninety years old. He fought under the British General Proctor at Sandusky, twenty-one years of age, gallantly held the frontier fort with but one cannon. The War Eagle also fought with Proctor and Tecumseh at the battle of the Thames, where the British army was mostly slain or captured and Tecumseh shot, October 5, 1813, by the Americans under William Henry Harrison. The War Eagle was held as a hostage at Prairie du Chien in 1827 for the good behavior of the Winnebago during the so-called Winnebago war, and for the delivery of Red Bird to justice. It was while Maj. Zachary Taylor was located at Prairie du Chien that he received from Old Gray-Headed Decorah his "peace pipe," and during the Winnebago war it was he who gave assurance to General Atkinson at Portage of the peaceable intentions of the Winnebago. Soon after Laurent Barth purchased the right from the Winnebago over the Portage, 1793, Old Gray-Headed Decorah moved from Apuckawa lake, on Fox river, in Green Lake county, and formed a village with his tribe on the Wisconsin river, about two miles above Portage. LaRonde says: "Schachipkaka De Kawry died April 26, 1836, aged ninety, at his village, the locality in 1876 known as the Caffrey place in the town of California, Winnebago county, at the foot of the bluff, between the Wisconsin and Baraboo rivers. Schoolhouse district No. 5 occupies the spot where the old chief died. This town contained over 100 lodges. He was a Catholic and was buried in their cemetery, near the site of the present courthouse in Portage City." He signed the treaties of 1828, 1829, 1832. Mrs. Kinzie described him as "the most noble, dignified and venerable of his own or, indeed, of any other tribe. His fine Roman countenance, rendered still more noble by his bald head, with one solitary tuft of long, silvery hair neatly tied falling back on his shoulders." Old Gray Headed Decorah came over to Portage from his village during the famine in 1831 and reported his people as starving. He was offered enough food for his own family. "No," he said, "if my people could not be relieved my family and I will starve with them."

Chah Post Kaw Kaw, or the Buzzard Decorah, was a son of Glory of the Morning and Sebrevior De Carrie, so One-Eyed Decorah told Judge Gale. He settled at LaCrosse in 1787 with a band of Winnebago, and was soon after killed by his own son in a drunken row.

One-Eyed Decorah, whose Indian name was Wadge-hut-ta-kaw, or Big Canoe, was a son of the Buzzard. He died at Channel

(near the Tunnell), Monroe County, Wis., in August, 1864, at an advanced age, as Grignon says, of ninety-two. His village in 1832 and later was at the mouth of the Black river, or some say near the village of Salem, on LaCrosse river, in Onalaska township, LaCrosse county. Also said by Rev. Brunson to be at Prairie LaCrosse in 1832. In 1826 he was said by Gen. H. L. Dotsman to have his village on Black river. Thomas P. Burnett, in 1832, when he went up the river to keep the Winnebago canoes from Black Hawk, says he "found One-Eyed Decorah and Little Thunder at the lower mouth of the Black river." One-Eyed Decorah was born about 1772, and was fifteen years of age when his father settled at LaCrosse. He aided in the capture of Mackinac (July 17, 1812), and was out with the British in the attack on Fort Stephenson, August 2, 1813, and was with McKay in the capture of Prairie Du Chien; and signed the treaty of 1825. The act for which he became celebrated was the capture of Black Hawk and the Prophet in 1832. The daring warrior, his band and followers, broken, slain and scattered by the murdered, the picturesque and rugged valley of the Lemonweir river, and then toward the LaCrosse river, where Big Canoe was hunting near Bangor, below Sparta, and found Black Hawk, who consented to go with him to Prairie Du Chien, where he delivered the captives.

A brother of One-Eyed Decorah was Wa Kon Han Kaw, or Wa kon Decorah, or Snake Skin, commonly called Washington Decorah, the orator of the Winnebago. The name is also rendered Wau kon caughaga. His likeness was painted by J. O. Lewis in 1825. When Mr. Burnett steamed up the Mississippi river on the "Enterprise" to secure the Winnebago canoes from Black Hawk, July 25, 1832, at sixty miles up the river from Prairie du Chien, he found Washington Decorah with the principal part of the band from the Wisconsin and Kickapoo rivers. The Waukon had a village on the headwaters of DeSota creek, below LaCrosse. He died at the Black Earth agency about 1864. Among those who bear the name and boast descent from this famous line of Winnebago chieftains there is one who is destined to become famous in the white man's finest art. She is Angel De Cora (this is the official spelling), of the reservation in Nebraska, but practicing her art in New York city. She studied art in the art department of Smith college at Northampton, Mass., and under the famous artist, Howard Pyle, who has interested himself in her success. She has been since 1906 an art instructor in Carlisle Indian school.

Four Legs, or Neokautah, had his village at the outlet of Lake Winnebago, on Doty island, now Menasha and Neenah. This has been the ancient home of the Winnebago since first known to the whites in 1632. He was known as Neokautah by the Menominee; but his Winnebago name was Hootschope, pronounced Hooshoo. Hon. Morgan L. Martin made a journey up the Fox river with Judge Doty from Green Bay to Prairie Du Chien to the trial of Red Bird in 1828, and describes this village: "On Doty island, very near the mouth, on the west channel, was the village of Hootschope, or Four Legs, the well-known Winnebago chieftain. There were from 150 to 200 lodges covered with bark or mats." Augustin Grignon also mentions this village "on Doty island, at the mouth of Winnebago lake." On August 16, 1830, Mr. McCall, one of the commissioners to arrange the differences between the New York Indian and the Winnebago, met in council Four Legs and ten other chiefs, at Four Legs' lodge on Doty island, and mentions "that the head chief was seated on his mat, cross-legged, in all the majesty of an Asiatic prince," describing Four Legs "as about forty years of age, of middle stature, a most interesting man in appearance and deportment, speaks his own tongue fluently. In short, he is a great man." Mrs. Kinzie mentions Four Legs as the "great chief of the Winnebago, whose village was on Doty island," in 1830, and says: "It was at the entrance of Lake Winnebago, a picturesque cluster of huts spread around on a pretty green glade and shaded by fine, lofty trees," and she furnishes an illustration of the village. She says in another place: "It was a cluster of neat bark wigwams." Four Legs died in 1830, but his village was still occupied in 1832, reported by Cutting Marsh as "occupied by a small band of the Winnebago tribe." This was the last mentioned of this village. Its name is preserved in the word Menasha, the city which, with the city of Neenah, occupy its site. Menasha was the name of this most ancient Indian village on the American continent. The name was by both Curtis Reed and Gov. J. D. Doty, the founders of the modern town, said to mean the name of the village on the island, and in Dakatah would be Mini ha ha, or Laughing Water, a possible reference to the double rapids which ran around their village. At the council held in Green Bay, August 24, 1830, Four Legs was head chief. Duck was head orator. There was also present Shounk Schunk Siap, or Black Wolf; Wheauk Kaw, or Big Duck, and Monk Kaw Kaw. For entertainment to amuse their visitors Four Legs was active. At night a band of Winnebago appeared "painted all

colors, naked except breech clout," before the house where McCall boarded; encouraged by drink, they held a war dance until 10 o'clock "with disfigured and distorted countenances." The head chief, Four Legs, displayed great activity. The report of the commissioners of the council of 1830 at Green Bay recites that Four Legs and Black Wolf were the only speakers, and that they had signed the treaty of 1822 with the New York Indians. Schoolcraft mentions that Four Legs levied tribute from travelers immediately after the war of 1812. He assumed to be the keeper of the Fox river valley. Col. T. L. Kinney alludes to this custom of exacting tribute, and relates that General Leavenworth, going up stream with his command in 1816, was accosted by Four Legs and notified that the lake was locked. The General rose with his gun resting on his arm and asked the interpreter to inform the chief that he had the key to unlock it. Four Legs replied, "Let him pass." This incident marks the last challenge of the Winnebago, and it is said that it took place beneath the Treaty Elm that for many years stood a conspicuous landmark in the county. The "Treaty Elm," or "Council Tree," beneath whose widespread branches the chiefs of the neighboring tribes are said to have been wont to gather in council, was located on Riverside park point at the mouth of the Neenah channel of the Fox river in the city of Neenah. It was of immense size and girth, towering above all the surrounding forest, and could be seen from points eight miles distant. Such was its prominence as a landmark that it was for many years used as a guide by sailors and steam pilots on the lake. It was destroyed by a charge of dynamite June 12, 1887, by the employees of the government in cutting away the point to widen the channel to increase the flow of water in flood times.

As Four Legs was supposed to be forty years of age in 1830, the year he died, and he must have been born about 1790, he could have taken part in the war of 1812, where he is frequently found on the side of the British. Mrs. Kinzie mentions the death of Four Legs by drinking too much sutler whisky when waiting at Fort Winnebago with the assembled Winnebago for the arrival of the silver from the government for the payment of their annuities.

"His body was wrapped in a blanket and placed in a rude coffin along with his guns, tomahawk, pipes and a quantity of tobacco." He was buried on the most elevated point of the hill opposite the fort, in the presence of "an immense procession of his people." A stake was placed at the head of his grave "on

which was painted in vermilion a series of hieroglyphics descriptive of deeds and events of his life," and a small white flag also waved over the grave. His wife, who survived him, was a Fox woman, but spoke the Chippewa language, which brought her services into use as an interpreter, as that was the court or universal language among all the tribes. He is said to have been a big chief and "a great and mighty warrior." In 1887 there were two descendants living—one was Good Cloud, a woman residing at Tomah. She has a son whose name was Good Year. One descendant was Will Dandy, a boy who was at school in Wittenberg mission. He had two cousins also living at Wittenberg.

Sau-sa-mau-nee was a younger brother of Four Legs and fought with him under the British flag in the war of 1812.

Wild Cat, or Pe-Sheu, had his village on Garlic Island, now Island park, a small island on the west margin of Lake Winnebago, seven miles south of Menasha and the same distance north of Oshkosh. The village was also located across the solent on the mainland. The corn hills are still visible both on the island and mainland. Just when this village was established here cannot be ascertained, yet it is highly probable that Pe-Sheu himself was its founder and that he and his tribesmen came from the principal Winnebago village on Doty's island. One of the earliest descriptions of this village is that of Mrs. (Governor) James D. Doty, who records in her journal under the date of August, 1823, of a canoe journey which she made with her husband, who was on the way up the river to hold court at Prairie Du Chien: "We coasted along the west shore of Lake Winnebago to Garlic island, on the opposite point to which is a Winnebago village of fine permanent lodges and fine cornfields." The late Judge Morgan L. Martin made the same journey in birch-bark canoes with Judge Doty and others in 1828 on their way to try Red Bird, the Winnebago, for murder. "Garlic island was the next stopping place. There was a Winnebago village there of about the same size as that over which Four Legs (Doty island) presided (150 to 200 lodges covered with bark mats). The lodges, however, were longer and neater. We purchased supplies of vegetables of the island villagers." From these descriptions it would appear that the village occupied both the island and mainland, that the wigwams were well constructed, the fields of Indian maize of considerable extent, and the population at that time one of 1,000 or more persons. Chief Wild Cat was a large and bulky savage with a hasty and ferocious temper which often got him into difficulties. He was probably born at Doty island at some time

previous to the Revolution. The earliest knowledge we have of this chieftain is from a remark he once made when he and Sarcel, a Winnebago chief, had a dispute in regard to their relative bravery. On this occasion Wild Cat is said to have exclaimed, "Don't you remember the time we aided the Shawanoes (English) in attacking the fort that you ran off so fast that you lost your breech clout?" This remark had reference to the Indian war of 1793, when the British had incited the western Indians to frequent depredations against the straggling white settlers in Ohio and Michigan. There is a possibility also that he may have served with Charles de Langlade under the British flag in the War of the Revolution. Certain it is that in 1797 he was considered of sufficient importance to receive from the royal officers the medal of their king. This bronze medal, given as a memento of distinguished favor by King George III to his savage ally in his wildwood home on the shore of Lake Winnebago, now reposes in the museum of Lawrence University at Appleton. It was deposited there about the year 1875 by Mr. D. C. Church, of Vinland, who obtained it from Louis B. Porlier, of Butte des Morts, a trader and son of Judge Porlier.

Mrs. Kinzie says the Wild Cat was "our Indian Falstaff in all save cowardice and falsehood." Being made drunk, he was unable to get to Fort Armstrong at Rock Island in time to object to the treaty of 1831, and when he found it granted the lands on which stood his village he wept. It is said that he was found dead against an oak tree in the center of the woods, where Oshkosh now stands. He was at the payments in Portage in 1830-1831, and is said to have died soon after the Black Hawk War, which would make the date of his death about 1833. He is reported to have gone under the partisan British leader of the Wisconsin savages, Col. Robert Dickson, early in 1812, to the capture of Mackinac. The following spring he fought with Tecumseh at Fort Meigs, and after his defeat was beaten off at Fort Stephenson or Sandusky. He was also a part of the Winnebago contingent under McKay in the capture of Prairie du Chien. In the winter of 1814 Dickson, with his convoy of supplies, was ice bound until January on Garlic island at Pesheu's village.

Black Wolf, or Shounktshunksiap, was a celebrated character in the border days of a century past. Mrs. Kinzie has left a racy sketch of this bold warrier, Black Wolf, "whose lowering, surly face well described his name. The fierce expression of countenance was greatly heightened by the masses of heavy black hair, contrary to the usual custom of the Winnebago, who for the

most part cut away a portion of the hair, drawing the remainder back of the head, clubbed and ornamented with beads, ribbons, cocks' feathers, or if entitled, an eagle feather for every scalp taken from an enemy."

On a point of land known as Black Wolf point, in the town of Black Wolf, Winnebago county, jutting out into Lake Winnebago, at a distance of seven miles south of the city of Oshkosh, there was formerly located Black Wolf's Winnebago Indian village. It is said to have numbered not more than forty huts. The date of its establishment here is not exactly known, but it is supposed to have been about the year 1800 or slightly before. Mrs. G. A. Randall, who formerly resided at Randall's point, remembers to have seen the Indian tepees and camp fires along the shore of Black Wolf point as late as the year 1846. Chief Black Wolf was a character of some importance. He was a large man and much respected by his people, and was called a war chief. In the attacks on Mackinac in the War of 1812 he fought under the leadership of Col. Robert Dickson. After the war the British, still seeking to hold the Winnebago in their interest for purposes of trade, called them to Mackinac to a council or treaty with Col. Robert McDonald, a British commissioner. Black Wolf was one of those in attendance at this gathering. He also participated with the British and their allies in the capture of Prairie du Chien in the year 1814. He was one of the signers of the land grant negotiated by Eleazer Williams in 1821 with Four Legs, the Winnebago head chief, and others, by which the New York Indians were to receive a strip of land five miles in width along the lower Fox, "from Grand Kachalin rapids to Winnebago rapids," in Winnebago county. He also participated in the councils held at Green Bay and Doty Island for a similar purpose in 1830 He is said to have died at Portage in the year 1847. During the Black Hawk War, Black Wolf camped with the Winnebago assembled at the site of Portage, on both sides of the Wisconsin river. The principal chiefs in these camps were Black Wolf, his son Dandy, White Eagle, White Crow and Broken Arm.

Dandy, the Beau Brummel of the Winnebago, was a son of Black Wolf and a cousin of Four Legs. "He wore fancy dress shirts of the brightest color, ornaments with rows of silver brooches, and displayed two pairs of arm bands. His leggins and moccasins were of the most elaborate embroidery in ribbons and porcupine quills. Numerous ornaments were dangling from his club of black hair. A feather fan was in one hand and a mirror in the other. His face was brilliantly colored and daubed."

La Ronde says Dandy, son of Black Wolf, was also known as Little Soldier. His village is reported by Mr. W. H. Canfield as being in 1839 on the Baraboo river, five or six miles above the present city of Baraboo. Old Dandy was one of those Paquette went after, then seventy years old, who was a small, thin man, and the only Winnebago who, after the breaking of tribal relations in 1848, was generally respected as chief of the tribe. He went to Washington in 1828 with War Eagle and others to see the President. His camp was then near the Dalles. He said he would not go to Long Prairie and was allowed to remain. In 1834 Captain Summer was sent back to Portage to hunt for Dandy. He was found at the head of Baraboo river and made to ride horseback with his legs chained under the animal with an ox-chain. He demanded to be taken to Governor Dodge at Mineral Point. Dodge asked him what was wanted. Dandy took a Bible from his bosom and asked the governor if it was a good book. He answered it was a good book—he could never have a better in his hand. "'Then," said Dandy, "if a man would do all that was in that book could any more be required of him?" He answered, "No." "Well," said Dandy, "look that book all through, and if you find in it that Dandy ought to be removed by the government to Turkey river, then I will go right off; but if you do not find it I will never go there to stay." The governor informed him his trick would not work. He was then replaced on the horse, his feet chained up again and taken to Prairie du Chien. The chain blistered his feet and legs so he was unable to walk for three weeks. He was then put in charge of a corporal, who was obliged to carry Dandy on his back to a buggy to be taken to Turkey river, Dandy claiming he was unable to walk. The buggy was at the fort gate and the corporal, supposing Dandy unable to walk, left him for a moment to reënter the fort. Dandy jumped from the buggy and ran into the forest, where the corporal could not find him. He remained in Wisconsin and died on the Peten Well bluff, an isolated rocky peak on the Wisconsin river, in June, 1870, aged seventy-seven years.

The Yellow Thunder "was a fine looking Indian, tall, straight and stately." His old encampment was about five miles below Berlin, on the Fox river, at the Yellow banks. This would locate his village in section 31, near Eureka, in Winnebago county. In 1832 at the close of the Black Hawk War Col. Charles Whittlesey with four others made a saddle journey over the Tomahawk trail along the left bank of the lower Fox and right bank or east side of the upper Fox river. Before arriving at Fort Winnebago

he passed two Winnebago villages, one of which was that of Yellow Thunder. He mentions crossing the Fox river in a flat-boat and landing near the spot where the father of "Grizzly Bear," a Menominee, is said to have lived. Here, he says, commenced a rolling prairie that continued for fifty miles (since known as Democrat prairie.) "The trail passed two Winnebago villages, one of which was called Yellow Thunder from its chief." The villagers, much to their annoyance, followed the party out of their village on horseback. Hon. Morgan L. Martin mentions passing a "Winnebago village on Green Lake prairie" in 1829, which may have been the village of Yellow Thunder. In 1828 Yellow Thunder and his squaw, a daughter of White Crow, made a journey to Washington to interview the President, and thereafter his squaw was known as Washington Woman. Yellow Thunder was a convert to the Catholic church and became zealous in its offices and was called the head war chief of his tribe. By false pretenses he was induced with others to visit Washington in 1837 and signed a false treaty, which granted the government all their lands east of the Mississippi river, under which, three years after, he was one of the first to suffer by being forcibly put in irons at Portage and removed to Yellow river, Iowa. Yellow Thunder soon returned and requested LaRonde to go with him to Mineral Point to enter a forty of land on the west bank of the Wisconsin river. In reply to an inquiry if Indians could enter lands, "Yes, the government has given no orders to the contrary." So Yellow Thunder, the head war chief of the Winnebago, entered, lived and died on his forty of land. He was again forcibly removed to Iowa with Black Wolf, but was allowed to return, as he was a land owner. Yellow Thunder owned the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 36, on the Wisconsin river, town of Delton, Sauk county, two log huts having been constructed for his own use and that of families who lived with him. About five acres of land was cultivated, raising corn, beans and potatoes. During big feasts as many as 1,500 Indians gathered in the vicinity. Shortly before his death he sold his land to Mr. John Bennett. It is related that when he paid his taxes he placed a kernel of corn in a leather pouch for each dollar of taxes paid, and when he sold the land he demanded as many dollars as there were kernels of corn in the old pouch. His summer village was sixteen miles up the river from Portage, in 1840, where Dandy and Little Duck also camped. Yellow Thunder died in 1874; said to have been childless, and was buried on a sandy knoll. Near by are the graves of Washington Woman and several

other Indians. She was buried sitting up, facing the east. A painting of Yellow Thunder hangs in the rooms of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and an unpublished manuscript giving "personal reminiscences," by Mrs. A. C. Flanders, is deposited in the public library at Portage.

CHAPTER IV.

THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

(Compiled from "Story of the Black Hawk War," by R. G. Thwaites, in Wisconsin Historical Collection.—Editor.)

When Wisconsin was still a part of Michigan territory and known as "Michiganter," long before the idea of a separate territory was thought of, when it was an almost trackless wilderness in 1832, occurred the historic Black Hawk War; few events in the history of the Northwest were as far reaching in consequences as this tragic struggle and perhaps none caused more bitter controversies, was the subject of more incorrect notions as to the causes, incidents, and the relative merits of the chief participants. The southern portion of this county, it is believed, was a part of the territory traversed by Black Hawk in his final retreat from the Mississippi with pitiful remnant of his band, making his escape into the Dells of Wisconsin, where he was finally captured.

On November 3, 1840, the United States government concluded a treaty with the Sac and Fox Indians, by which, for the paltry sum of $1,000, the Indian confederacy ceded fifty million acres of land comprising in general terms the present state of Missouri and the territory lying between the Wisconsin river on the north, the Fox river of the Illinois on the east, the Illinois river on the southeast and the Mississippi on the west; in this treaty was a clause which became one of the chief causes of Black Hawk War, which provided that the Indians need not vacate the lands, stipulating that "as long as the lands which are now ceded to the United States remain their property"—that is to say public land —"the Indians belonging to said tribes shall enjoy the privilege of living and hunting upon them."

Within the limits of this territory, situated on the Rock river three miles from its mouth and the same distance south of Rock Island was the chief village and seat of power of the Sacs, containing a population of about five hundred families and one of the largest Indian villages on the continent.

The principal character in this village was Black Sparrow Hawk, or as commonly styled Black Hawk, born in 1767; he was

not an hereditary or an elected chief, but was by common consent the leader of the village. Although not endowed with superior moral or intellectual qualities the force of circumstances made him a national celebrity in his own day and a conspicuous figure in western history for all time. He was a restless, ambitious savage, possessed of some of the qualities of leadership but without the capacity to attain the highest honors in the Sac and Fox confederacy. He was jealous of other chiefs, quarrelsome in council, continually sought excuses to differ with them on questions of policy and arrayed his following against them, was a good deal of a demagogue and aroused the passion and prejudices of his people by impassioned appeals. He was doubtless sincere in his opinions and honest in his motives. He was easily influenced by the British military and commercial agents, who were continually engaged previous to the war of 1812, in cultivating a spirit of hostility between the Northwestern tribes and the Americans, was led by them to consider himself under the especial protection of the "British Father" at Malden. Too confiding a disposition, he was readily duped by those who, white or red, were interested in deceiving him.

Black Hawk was about five feet, four or five inches in height, rather spare as to flesh; his somewhat pinched features exaggerated the prominence of his cheek bones; a full mouth inclined to be somewhat open when at rest, a pronounced Roman nose, fine "piercing" eyes, often beaming with a kindly and always with a thoughtful expression, no eyebrows, a high full forehead, head well thrown back, with a pose of quiet dignity, hair plucked out with the exception of a scalp lock in which, on ceremonial occasions was fastened a bunch of eagle feathers; such is a pen portrait of this celebrity.

He, with two hundred of his followers, who became known as the "British band" served with Tecumseh and the British in the war of 1812. After burying the hatchet, Black Hawk settled down to the customary routine of savage life making frequent trips to Malden for provisions, arms and ammunition, and by flattery of the British agents his hatred against Americans was increased, but it is not at all surprising that he hated the Americans, his life was continually being disturbed by them and a cruel and causeless beating which some white settlers gave him in the winter of 1822 and 1823 was an insult which he treasured up against the entire American people.

In the summer of 1823, squatters, coveting the rich fields cultivated by the British band near their village began to take

possession of them; outrages were committed of the most flagrant nature, Indian cornfields were fenced in by intruders, squaws and children were whipped for venturing beyonds the bounds thus established, lodges were burned over the heads of the occupants; a reign of terror ensued in which frequent remonstrances of Black Hawk to the white authorities were in vain. It was all a plain violation of the treaty rights of the Indians and grew from year to year. When the Indians returned each spring from their winter's hunt they found their village more of a wreck than when they had left it in the fall. Black Hawk was advised by Keokuk the chief of the confederacy to retreat across the Mississippi, but Black Hawk was stubborn, appealed to his people, to their love of home and veneration for the graves of their kindred, for here was located their cemetery, and his people stood by him. He them made the claim that the representatives of the Sac and Fox tribes who negotiated the treaty of 1804, had not consented that the land upon which Black Hawk's village stood should be the property of the United States. In this he was of course not borne out by the facts but persisted in that understanding, and was advised by the mischief making British agents that if it was true that the government had not bought the site of his village to hold fast to it and the United States would not venture to remove him by force.

In this he was also encouraged by White Cloud, the Winnebago prophet, who was a shrewd, crafty Indian, half Winnebago and half Sac, possessing much influence over both nations from his assumption of sacred talents and was the head of a Winnebago village some thirty-five miles above the mouth of the Rock river; he hated the whites, seemed devoid of humane sentiments and seemed to enjoy sowing the seeds of discord, a remarkable man physically and mentally, a fine orator and strong in the councils.

In the spring of 1830, Black Hawk and his band returned from an unsuccessful hunt to find their town almost completely shattered, many of the graves plowed over, and the whites more abusive than ever; during the winter, the squatters who had for seven years been illegally on the land preempted a few quarter sections at the mouth of the Rock, so selected as to cover the village site and the Sac cornfields. This was clearly a trick to accord with the letter but violated the spirit of the treaty of 1804; there was still fifty miles of practically unoccupied territory to the east of the village and no necessity for disturbing the Sacs for many years to come.

When in the spring of 1831, Hawk again returned after a

profitless hunt, he was fiercely warned away by the whites; he, in a dignified manner, notified the settlers that if they did not themselves remove that he should use force to evict them, meaning physical force. This was construed by the whites to be a threat against their lives and petitions and messages were sent to Gov. John Reynolds of Illinois, in terms so exaggerated that they would be amusing were it not that they were the prelude to one of the darkest tragedies of our western border. The governor issued an inflammatory proclamation, calling for volunteers to "repel the invasion of the British band"; these sixteen hundred strong and mounted, with ten companies of regulars under Gen. Edmund P. Gaines, made a demonstration before Black Hawk's village on the 25th of June.

During the night, the Indians, in the face of such a superior force quietly withdrew to the west bank of the Mississippi. On the thirtieth they signed a treaty of capitulation and peace, with Governor Reynolds and General Gaines, solemnly agreeing never to return to the east side of the river without express permission of the United States government.

The rest of the summer was spent by the evicted savages in misery, it was too late to raise another crop of corn and beans and they suffered for the necessaries of life; another difficulty arose; the previous year (1830) a party of Menomonee and Sioux had murdered some of Black Hawk's band and a few weeks after their removal Black Hawk headed a large war party which ascended the river and in retaliation massacred all but one of a party of twenty-eight Menomonees camped near Fort Crawford. Complaint was made to Gen. Joseph Street, Indian agent at the post who demanded that the murderers be delivered to him for trial, under existing treaty provisions, but as none of the Menomonees who had murdered his people had been given up, Black Hawk declined to accede, thereby rebelling against the authority of the United States.

Neapope, who was second in command in the British band who had gone upon a visit to Malden prior to the eviction, returned in the fall and reported to his chief proffers of aid from the British, the Winnebagoes, Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottawatomies in regaining their village. White Cloud advised Black Hawk to proceed to the prophet's town the following spring and raise a crop of corn and that by fall the allies would be ready to join the Sac leader in a general movement against the whites in the valley of the Rock; relying upon these promises Black Hawk spent the winter with his band on the deserted site of old Fort

Madison on the west side of the river. On the sixth of April, 1832, Black Hawk with about five hundred warriors, their squaws and children, with all their belongings crossed the Mississippi a little below the mouth of the Rock and invaded Illinois. The results of the negotiations with the Winnebagoes and other tribes during the winter had not been satisfactory, but White Cloud, the prophet met him and gave him assurance of success and the misguided Sac proceeded confidently on his march, arrived at the prophet's town with four hundred and fifty of his braves, well mounted, while the others, with women, children and equipage, remained with the canoes; the intention being to raise a crop of corn immediately above the prophet's town and prepare for war in the fall. Immediately upon crossing the river Black Hawk sent messengers to the Pottawatomies to meet him in council, but this tribe was much divided; Shaubena, a chief of much ability, very friendly to the whites succeeded in persuading a majority of the braves to at least remain neutral; but the hotheads under Big Foot and a despicable half breed British agent, Mike Girty, were fierce for war. Shaubena after quieting his followers set out immediately on a tour of the settlements in the Illinois and Rock river valleys warning the pioneers of the approaching war, even extending his mission as far as Chicago. Gen. Henry Atkinson, who had arrived at Fort Armstrong early in the spring, with a half company of regulars, to enforce the demand for the delivery of the Sac murderers, learned of the invasion on the 13th of April, and at once notified Governor Reynolds that his own force was too small and that a large force of militia was essential. Governor Reynolds at once issued another fiery proclamation for mounted volunteers. The news spread like wild fire; some settlers fled, never to return; the majority, however, which did not join the state troops went to the larger settlements where rude stockade forts were built, the inhabitants forming themselves into garrisons, with officers and some degree of military discipline.

The spring was backward and General Atkinson was greatly hampered in collecting troops, stores, boats and camp equipage; during his preparations he took occasion to assure himself of the peaceful attitude of the Sacs and Foxes not members of the British band. He also sent two messages to Black Hawk ordering him to at once withdraw to the west bank of the river on the peril of being driven there by force of arms, to both of which the Sac leader sent defiant answers.

The volunteers collected at Beardstown and were organized into four regiments under the command of Col. John Thomas, Col.

Jacob Fry, Col. Abraham B. Dewitt and Col. Samuel M. Thompson, a scout battalion under Maj. James D. Henry and two "odd" battalions under Majors Thomas James and Thomas Long. The entire force, some sixteen hundred strong, all horsemen except three hundred who had been enlisted as infantry, by mistake, was placed under command of Brig. Gen. Samuel Whiteside, who had some reputation as an Indian fighter. Accompanied by Governor Reynolds the brigade proceeded to Fort Armstrong and the volunteers were at once sworn into the United States service by General Atkinson; the governor, who remained with his troops was recognized and paid as a major general, while Lieut. Robert Anderson (later of Fort Sumter fame) was detailed from the regulars as inspector of the Illinois militia.

On the ninth of May a start was made, Whiteside, with the mounted troops, following Black Hawk's trail up the east bank of the Rock. General Atkinson followed in boats with cannon, provisions and the bulk of the baggage. With him were 300 volunteer and 400 regular infantry, the latter gathered from Forts Crawford and Leavenworth and under the command of Col. Zachary Taylor, afterwards president of the United States. The traveling was bad for both divisions; heavy rains had made the river turbulent, the men frequently wading breast deep for hours together pushing the Mackinaw boats against the rapid currents and lifting them over the rapids; while along the trail through the swamps baggage wagons were often mired and the cavalry were obliged to do rough service in hauling freight through and over the black muck and tangled roots.

Whiteside arrived at the prophet's town, finding it deserted, with a fresh trail up the river, so he pushed on rapidly as possible to Dixon's, arriving there May 12. Here he found two independent battalions, 340 men all told, under Majors Isiah Stillman and David Bailey; these troops were not of the regular levy, but were well supplied with provisions and ammunition in which Whiteside was deficient, and being impatient and anxious to do something brilliant, they obtained Whiteside's permission to go forward as a scouting party and set out on the morning of the 13th under Stillman, arriving late in the afternoon of the 14th three miles south of the mouth of Sycamore creek, where they went into camp in a strong position, being in a grove surrounded by clear prairie, and under ordinary conditions of warfare could have repulsed ten times their number.

Black Hawk stayed a week at the Prophet's town, holding fruitless councils with the wily and vacillating Winnebagoes; learning

positively that he had been deceived, he pushed on to keep his engagement for a council at Sycamore creek with the Pottawatomies, faint at heart though vaguely hoping for better things from this tribe. He went into camp with his principal men in a large grove near the mouth of Sycamore creek, met the chiefs of the tribe and found that through the influence of Shaubena it was impossible for him to gain the support of more than about one hundred of the hot-headed element. Black Hawk stated in after years that he had at this time resolved to return at once to the west of the Mississippi should he be again summoned to do so by General Atkinson and never more disturb the peace of the white settlements. As a parting courtesy to his guests, however, he was making arrangements to give them a dog feast on the evening of May 14 when the summons came in a manner little anticipated by him.

The white-hating faction of the Pottawatomies were camped on the Kishwaukee river seven miles north of Black Hawk and with them the majority of his own party; Black Hawk says in his autobiography, that not more than forty of his braves were with him upon the council ground; towards evening, in the midst of his feast preparations, he was informed that a party of white horsemen were going into camp three miles down the rock; it was Stillman's force, but the chief thought it was a small party headed by Atkinson, being unaware of the size of the force placed in the field against him, and sent three of his young men with white flags to parley with them and convey his offer to meet White Beaver (Atkinson) in council. The rangers, who regarded the expedition as a big frolic, were engaged in preparing their camp when the truce bearers appeared on the prairie a mile away. A mob of troopers rushed out at them, some with saddles and some without, and ran the visitors into camp amidst a hubbub of yells and imprecations. Black Hawk had sent five other braves to follow the flagmen at a safe distance and watch developments. This second party was sighted by about twenty horsemen and were said to have been partially intoxicated, hot chase was given to the spies and two of them were killed, the other three galloped back to their grove and reported to their chief that not only two of their number, but the three flag bearers as well had been cruelly slain; this flagrant disregard of the rules of war caused the blood of the old Sac to boil with indignation, tearing to shreds a flag of truce which he had himself been preparing to carry to the white camp, he fiercely harangued his thirty-five braves and bade them avenge the blood of their brethren at any risk.

The neutral Pottawatomies at once withdrew to their village while Black Hawk and his Sacs, securely mounted, sallied forth to meet the enemy. The entire white force was soon seen rushing towards them pell mell, in a confused mass. The Sacs withdrew behind a fringe of bushes, their leader hurriedly bade them to stand firm; on catching sight of this grim array the whites paused, but before they had a chance to turn, Black Hawk sounded the war whoop and the savages dashed forward and fired. The Sac chief tells us that he thought the charge was suicidal when he ordered it, but enraged by the treachery of the whites he and all with him were ready to die to secure revenge. On the first fire of the Indians the whites fled in great consternation, without firing a shot, pursued by this little band of savages until nightfall ended the chase. But nightfall did not end the rout; the volunteers, haunted by fear dashed through their own impregnable camp, leaving everything behind them, plunged madly through creeks and swamps till they reached Dixon's, twenty-five miles away, where they straggled in for the next twenty-four hours; many did not stop there, but continued until they reached their own homes, fifty or more miles farther on, and reported that Black Hawk with two thousand bloodthirsty warriors was sweeping northern Illinois with destruction. The white loss in all this ill-starred scrimmage was eleven killed, while the Indians lost two spies and one of the flag bearers, the others escaping. The flight of Stillman's corps was wholly inexcusable; Stillman undoubtedly tried to rally his men, but the lack of discipline and experience, coupled with a lack of confidence, wrought havoc. It was a treacherous thing to treat the bearers of flags of truce as they did, something which even savages rarely disregard, and but for this wanton act the Black Hawk War would have been a bloodless demonstration. Unfortunately for our own good name, this violation of the rules of war was repeated more than once during this war.

This easy victory elated Black Hawk and gave him a poor opinion of the valor of the opposing forces; almost wholly destitute of provisions and ammunition, the capture of Stillman's stores was a rich prize. He recognized that war was inevitable and sent scouts to watch the enemy while he hurriedly withdrew the women and children to the head waters of Rock river in Michigan territory (now Wisconsin), to which he was guided by friendly Winnebagoes. Here he recruited parties of Winnebagoes and Pottawatomies and descended into northern Illinois, prepared for border warfare.

Stillman's defeat inaugurated a reign of terror in the terri-

tory between the Illinois and Wisconsin rivers; the name of Black Hawk became coupled the country over with stories of savage cunning and cruelty, his name serving as a household bugaboo. Shaubena again sounded the alarm and settlers again left their fields and hurried to the forts.

Whiteside, on May 15th, the day of the battle, with one thousand four hundred men, proceeded to the scene and buried the dead. On the 19th Atkinson and the entire army moved up the Rock river, leaving Stillman's corps at Dixon to care for the wounded and guard supplies. They added to their record of infamy by deserting their post and going home. Atkinson hastily returned; Whiteside being left to follow Black Hawk; his men grew weary of soldiering, declaring that the Indians were in the unexplored and impenetrable swamps to the north, which were in Michigan territory, and farther, that they could not be compelled to serve out of the state; after two or three days of fruitless skirmishing, upon approaching the state line, a consultation of officers was held at which it was determined to abandon the search, the troops were marched back to Ottawa, where they were mustered out on the 27th and 28th of May. On their way to Ottawa the militiamen stopped at the Davis farm on Indian creek, where a terrible massacre of whites had occurred a few days before and saw the mutilated corpses of fifteen men, women and children. This revolting spectacle, instead of nerving the troops to renewed action in defense of their homes, appears to have still further disheartened them.

And so the first campaign of the war ended as it had begun, with an exhibition of cowardice on the part of the Illinois militia.

THE CLOSING CAMPAIGN.

Governor Reynolds was active and at once arranged for a levy of "at least two thousand" men to serve through the war to rendezvous at Beardstown June 10; the general government ordered 1,000 regulars under General Winfield Scott to proceed from the seaboard to the seat of war, future operations against the enemy to be under the command of General Scott. At General Atkinson's earnest appeal, 300 mounted rangers under Col. Henry Frye agreed to remain in the field to protect the northern line of Illinois settlements until the new levy could be mobilized.

Black Hawk divided his force into war parties, himself leading the largest, about two hundred, assisted by small parties of Winnebagoes and about one hundred Pottawatomies under Mike Girty,

descended the Rock river from Lake Koshkonong and during the irregular warfare which now broke out in northern Illinois and what is now southern Wisconsin, some two hundred whites and nearly as many Indians lost their lives, the panic among settlers was wide-spread and great suffering ensued. Many incidents of this border warfare are of historic interest, and have been the cause of much discussion, but owing to the vast amount of such newspaper discussion and documentary collections, only an incident or two will be alluded to here.

On the evening of June 14th a party of eleven Sacs killed five white men at Spafford's farm in what is now LaFayette county, Wisconsin. Col. Henry Dodge, with twenty-nine men, followed and the next day overtook the savages in a neighboring swamp. A battle ensued lasting but a short time, the eleven Indians were killed and scalped, the whites losing three killed and one wounded. No incident in the entire war has been so thoroughly discussed and quarreled over as this bloody skirmish.

On June 24th Black Hawk's own party made a desperate attack on Apple River fort, fourteen miles east of Galena, Ill., which sustained a heavy siege for upwards of an hour, the little garrison displaying remarkable vigor, the women and girls moulding bullets, loading guns and generally proving themselves border heroines. The red men retired with small loss, setting fire to neighboring cabins and fields. The next day the same war party attacked Major Dement's spy battallion at Kellogg's grove, sixteen miles to the east; the Indians were routed upon General Posey bringing reinforcements, losing about fifteen killed while the whites lost but five.

The people of what is now the lead mining district of southwestern Wisconsin became alarmed for fear that the troops centered on Rock river would drive the enemy across the Illinois border upon them; the news of Black Hawk's invasion in May had reached them and preparations for defense were at once begun; Col. Henry Dodge, one of the pioneers of the lead region, held a commission as chief of the Michigan militia west of Lake Michigan, and assumed direction of the military operations north of the Illinois line. With a company of twenty-seven hastily equipped rangers he made a trip to Dixon to reconnoiter the country and to solicit aid from Governor Reynolds, in which he was not successful, and returned to the mines bearing the news of Stillman's defeat. After arranging to recruit three additional companies he went with fifty men to White Crow's Winnebago village, at the head of Fourth lake some four miles northwest of the

site of Madison, for the purpose of holding council with a view to keeping them quiet during the present crisis; he received profuse assurances of their fidelity to the American cause, but he seems to have placed small reliance upon their sincerity.

Upon returning Dodge started for headquarters at Fort Union with 200 mounted rangers, gathered from the mines and fields, a free and easy set of dare devils having an intense hatred of the Indian race; they were disciplined to some extent, but in their march through the country paid but little attention to regulations. On the 3d of June they arrived at Blue Mounds just in time to receive the Hall girls brought in by White Crow. Crow's manner being offensive, Dodge had him and his companions put into the guard house as hostages for the good behavior of the Fourth lake band. Dodge being joined by a small party of Illinois rangers under Capt. J. W. Stephenson, proceeded to Ottawa to confer with General Atkinson. After remaining a few days, the rangers returned to the lead mines to complete the defenses there.

In less than three weeks after Stillman's defeat, Reynolds and Atkinson had recruited 3,200 troops, divided into three brigades, under Generals Alexander Posey, M. K. Alexander and James D. Henry, and in addition were Fry's rangers, half of whom continued their service to protect the settlements and stores on Rock river. With these, Dodge's Michigan rangers and the regular infantry the entire army numbered about 4,000 effective men.

An advance party of Posey's brigade was sent out to disperse Black Hawk's war party and it was this force which had the skirmish at Kellogg's grove, previously alluded to. Meantime Alexander and Henry's brigades arrived at Dixon's. When news came of the Indian defeat at Kellogg's, Alexander was dispatched in haste to Plum river to intercept the enemy's crossing the Mississippi at that point; Atkinson, with Henry's and the regulars, remained at Dixon to await developments, and on learning that Black Hawk's main camp was still at Lake Koshkonong, pushed on up the Rock with 400 regulars and 2,100 volunteers, being joined by a party of seventy-five friendly Pottawattomies, who seemed eager to join in the scrimmage.

On June 30th the army crossed the Illinois-Wisconsin boundary about a mile east of the site of Beloit. Sac signs were fresh, for Black Hawk, after his defeat at Kellogg's, had fled directly to his stronghold, and Atkinson's men were following a warm trail. Camps were invariably made in the timber with breastworks to protect against night attacks, the rear guard of the savages prowl-

ing around in the dark and being frequently fired on by sentries.

On July 2d the army arrived at Lake Koshkonong, found hastily deserted Indian camps; scouts made a tour of the lake, but found nothing of importance except a few stragglers. A few captured Winnebagoes gave vague testimony and one of them was shot and scalped for his impertinence. Fruitless scouting continued for several days.

On July 4 Alexander's brigade arrived, and on the sixth Posey reported with Dodge's squadron. On June 28th, while Dodge was at Fort Hamilton, Posey arrived with orders from Atkinson to join forces and proceed to the main army on the Koshkonong. Dodge now had about three hundred men, including a party of twenty Menomonies, and eight or ten white and half-breed scouts under Col. William S. Hamilton, son of the famous Alexander. Proceeding by the way of Four Lakes, White Crow and a party of thirty Winnebagoes offered to guide Posey and Dodge to Black Hawk's camp. After advancing through almost impenetrable swamps for several days, a messenger arrived from General Atkinson with orders to join the main body on Bark river, as the enemy was believed to be in that vicinity. This order provoked Dodge, but proved to be singularly opportune. Black Hawk's camp occupied a position excellent for defense at the summit of a steep declivity on the east bank of the Rock, where the river was difficult of passage. White Crow's solicitude as a guide was undoubtedly caused by his desire to lead the troops into a trap, where they would be badly whipped if not annihilated.

While White Crow, with treachery had been endeavoring to entrap the left wing of the army, other Winnebago had informed Atkinson that Black Hawk was encamped on an island in the Whitewater river, a few miles to the east. In consequence there was a useless wild goose chase through the broad morasses and treacherous sink holes of that region. Because of this false information, Atkinson sent the messenger to Posey just in time to save that force, though he did not then know it.

The army, as finally formed, was Alexander's brigade and Dodge's squadron left wing, on west side of Rock; regulars under Taylor and Henry's brigade were right wing, commanded by Atkinson in person, and marched on the east bank; Posey's brigade, also on the west bank was the center.

On July 10th Henry's and Alexander's brigades and Dodge's squadron were sent to Fort Winnebago, eighty miles to the northwest for much needed provisions; the Second regiment of Posey's brigade was sent to Dixon; with the rest of the troops Posey was

ordered to Fort Hamilton to guard the mining country; Atkinson himself fell back to Lake Koshkonong and built a fort a few miles up the Bark river on the eastern limit of what is now the city of Fort Atkinson.

Arriving at Fort Winnebago, the troops found a number of Winnebago, all full of advice; and also a famous half breed scout, Pierre Paquette. He informed Henry and Dodge of the true location of Black Hawk's stronghold with information as to its character, and with twelve Winnebago was engaged to guide the troops to it. While at the fort a stampede of the horses occurred and something like fifty were lost. Henry and Dodge determined to return by way of Hustisford rapids and there engage Black Hawk if possible. Alexander's men refused to go on this perilous expedition and the General weakly yielded to their demand to obey Atkinson's order and return to camp. Henry was made of different stuff and refused to return, and the same day started with twelve days' rations with their guides. The ranks had been thinned by one cause and another so that in Henry's brigade there were now but 600 effective men and Dodge had about 150.

On July 18th the troops found the Winnebago village at which Black Hawk had been quartered, but the enemy had fled; the Winnebago insisted that Black Hawk was then at Cranberry lake, a half day's march up the river, and the white commanders resolved to proceed the following day. At 2:00 p. m. of the day of arrival Adjutants Merriam of Henry's and Woodbridge of Dodge's started south to carry the information to Atkinson's camp thirty-five miles down the river. Little Thunder, a Winnebago chief, accompanied them as guide. When about twenty miles out, halfway between the present sites of Watertown and Jefferson, they suddenly struck a broad trail leading west. Little Thunder became greatly excited but could not make the officers understand him, so he turned his horse and dashed back to Henry's camp, the officers being obliged to follow, and there Little Thunder informed his people that the trail of Black Hawk in his flight to the Mississippi had been discovered and to warn them that further dissembling was useless.

The news was received with joy by the troops, sinking spirits revived, all incumbrances were left behind, and on the following morning the chase was begun; the Chicago and Northwestern railway between Jefferson Junction and Madison follows very closely Black Hawk's trail from Rock river to Four lakes; it was a tough country, the men getting into sink holes; the temperature following a rainstorm, fell, making progress difficult, but straggling Winne-

bago informed the troops that Black Hawk was but two miles ahead and they pushed on with empty stomachs and wet clothes. By sunset July 20th, the second day, they reached the lakes, going into camp near the northeast extremity of Third lake. That same night Black Hawk was camped, strongly ambushed, seven or eight miles beyond, near the present village of Pheasant Branch.

At daybreak of the 21st the troops were up and after fording the Catfish river swept across the isthmus between Third and Fourth lakes in regular line of battle, Ewing scouts in front; the line of march was along Third lake shore to where Fauerbach's brewery now stands, thence due west to Fourth lake, the shores of which were skirted through the present site of the University, across the swamps and hills to the Pheasant branch, and then due northwest to the Wisconsin river; the advance was rapid, forty horses gave out during the day. When a horse dropped the trooper trudged on afoot, throwing away camp kettle and incumbrances. It was 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon before the enemy's rear guard, twenty braves under Neapope, was overtaken. Several skirmishes ensued but the weakness of Neapope's force being discovered they were easily dispersed by the white advance guard. At about 4:30 at a point about twenty-five miles northwest of the site of Madison, Neapope's band, reinforced by a score of braves under Black Hawk, made a bold stand to cover the flight of the main body down the bluffs and across the stream. The troops dismounted and advanced on foot. The savages made a heavy charge, yelling like madmen, endeavoring to flank the whites, but were repulsed. The Sacs now dropped in the grass, which was nearly six feet high, and after an hour of hot firing with few casualties on either side, Dodge, Ewing and Jones charged the enemy with bayonets, driving them up a rising piece of ground at the top of which the second rank of savages were found. It was raining softly and it was found difficult to keep the muskets dry, but a brisk fire was kept up until dusk, and the pursuit was abandoned for the night. This battle on the part of the Sacs was conducted by Black Hawk himself, who sat on a white pony on a neighboring knoll, giving his braves orders with stentorian voice.

After dusk a large party of fugitives, composed mainly of women, children and old men, were placed on a large raft and in canoes begged from the Winnebago and sent down the river with the hope that the soldiers at Fort Crawford, guarding the mouth of the Wisconsin, would allow these noncombatants to cross the Mississippi river in peace. But this confidence was misplaced. Lieutenant Ritner with a small detachment of regulars was sent

out by Indian Agent Joseph M. Street to intercept these forlorn and nearly starved wretches, and a short distance above the fort Ritner fired on them, killing fifteen men and capturing thirty-two women and children and four men. Nearly as many were drowned during the onslaught, while of the rest, who escaped to the woods, all but a half score perished with hunger or were massacred by a party of Menomonies from Green Bay, allies under Colonel Stambaugh.

About an hour and a half before dawn of the 22nd, the day of the battle of Wisconsin Heights, a loud, shrill voice was heard speaking in an unknown tongue, which caused great consternation in the white camp as the troops feared it was the savage leader giving orders for an attack. It was Neapope, who, believing that Paquette and the Winnebago were still with the whites, although they had returned, spoke in the Winnebago tongue, a speech of conciliation to the victors, saying in effect that if they were allowed to cross the Mississippi in peace they would never more do harm, but the plea fell on unwitting ears for no one in the white camp understood it and thus failed a second attempt of Black Hawk's band to close the war. As for Neapope, finding that his mission had failed, he fled to the Winnebago, leaving his half dozen companions to return to Black Hawk with the discouraging news, now encamped in a ravine north of the Wisconsin.

On the morning of the 22nd it was found that the enemy had escaped and being poorly supplied with provisions for a long chase in an unknown country beyond the Wisconsin river, preparations were made to march to Blue Mound for provisions. Arriving there on the 23rd they were joined by Atkinson and Alexander. Atkinson assumed command, distributed rations and ordered the pursuit resumed. On the 27th and 28th the Wisconsin was crossed on rafts at Helena. Posey now joined and all the brigades were together again. At noon the 28th the advance began with 450 regulars under General Brady in front, Dodge, Posey and Alexander following in the order named, Henry bringing up the rear. It appears that much jealousy was apparent on Atkinson's part from the fact that the volunteers had won the glory so far in the campaign. After a march of a few miles the trail of the fugitives toward the Mississippi was discovered. The country between the Wisconsin and the great river was rugged and hard to get over, the Winnebago guides were unfamiliar with it, and progress was slow. However the fact that they were noticeably gaining on the redskins spurred the troops. The pathway was strewn with dead Sacs who had perished of wounds and starvation, and there were

frequent evidences that the fleeing wretches were eating the bark of trees and the sparse horse flesh of their fagged-out ponies, to sustain life.

On August 1st Black Hawk and his sadly depleted band reached the Mississippi at a point two miles below the mouth of the Bad Axe, in Vernon county, about forty miles north of the mouth of the Wisconsin. Here he tried to cross. There were, however, but two or three canoes to be had and the work was slow. One large raft laden with women and children was sent down the east side of the river towards Prairie du Chien, but on the way it capsized and nearly all its occupants were drowned.

In the middle of the afternoon the steamer "Warrior" of Prairie du Chien appeared having on board Lieutenants Kingsbury and Holmes with fifteen regulars, who had been up the river to warn the Sioux chiefs at Wabasha that the Sacs were headed in that direction. As the steamer neared the shore Black Hawk appeared on the bank with a white flag and called out to the Captain in the Winnebago tongue to send a boat ashore as the Sacs wished to give themselves up. A Winnebago stationed in the bow interpreted the request but the Captain, affecting to believe that it was an ambush, ordered Black Hawk to come aboard in his own craft. This he could not do as he had no boat or canoe, and his reply to that effect was met in a few moments with three quick rounds of canister shot which went plowing through the little group of Indians on shore with deadly effect. A fierce fire of musketry ensued in which twenty-three Indians were killed and but one white man wounded. The "Warrior" now being out of wood returned to Prairie du Chien for the night, the soldiers being highly elated at their share in the campaign.

During the night a few more Indians crossed the river but Black Hawk, seeing that all was lost to him, gathered a party of ten warriors, among whom was the prophet, and with about thirty-five squaws and children headed east for a rocky hiding place in the Dells of Wisconsin. The next day the heart of the old man smote him for having deserted his people and he returned in time to witness from a neighboring bluff the conclusion of the battle of Bad Axe that struck the death blow to the British band. With a howl of rage he turned and disappeared in the forest.

The aged chief had left excellent instructions to his people in the event of the arrival of the white army. Twenty picked Sacs were on the high bluffs east of the river as rear guard. Atkinson's men on the afternoon of August 2nd encountered these Sacs. The

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density of the timber obstructing the view it was supposed that Black Hawk's main force was overtaken. The army spread itself for the attack, Alexander and Posey forming the right, Henry the left, and Dodge and the regulars the center. The savage decoys retreated up the river away from the main position of the savage force and drew the troops after them as the white center and right wing followed quickly, leaving the left wing—with the exception of one of its regiments detailed to cover the rear—without orders. Some of Ewing's scouts accidentally discovered that the main trail of the enemy was farther down the river than where the decoys were leading the army; thereupon Henry with his entire force descended the bluff and after a gallant charge on foot found himself in the midst of the main body of 300 warriors. A desperate conflict ensued, the bucks being driven from tree to tree at the point of the bayonet, while women and children plunged madly into the river, many to drown. The conflict raged fiercely. Fully a half hour after Henry made the descent Atkinson, hearing the din of battle in his rear, came hastening to the scene with the center and right wing driving in the decoys and stragglers, thus completing the corral. The carnage now proceeded more fiercely than ever. The "Warrior" reappeared and aided the attack with canister. A wild dash was made for the river; some of the fugitives succeeded in swimming to the west bank, but most of them were picked off by sharp-shooters as if they were rats instead of human beings, showing absolutely no mercy toward women and children. This massacre lasted for about three hours. The Indians lost 150 killed outright, while as many more of both sexes and all ages were drowned—some fifty being taken prisoners, mostly women. About 300 of the band crossed the river successfully before and during the struggle. The whites lost seventeen killed and twelve wounded.

Those who had crossed the river were cruelly set upon by a band of Sioux under Chief Wabasha, and one-half of these helpless, half-starved noncombatants were cruelly slaughtered, while many of the others died of exhaustion and wounds before they reached their friends of Keokuk's band.

The rest is soon told. The army returned to Prairie du Chien, General Scott assumed command and mustered out the volunteers the following day. Cholera among his troops had detained him first at Detroit and then at Chicago, nearly one-fourth of his 1,000 regulars having died of the pestilence. Independent of this the American loss in the war, including volunteers and settlers killed

in the irregular skirmishes and in massacres, was not over 250. The financial cost to the nation and to the state of Illinois aggregated nearly $2,000,000.

On August 22nd, Chaetar and One-Eyed Decorah, two Winnebago braves, delivered Black Hawk and the Prophet into the hands of Agent Street at Prairie du Chien. They had found them at the Wisconsin river dells above Kilbourn City. On the 21st of September a treaty of peace was signed and Black Hawk, the Prophet and Neapope, who had been captured later, were kept as hostages for the good behavior of the rest of the British band.

They were kept through the winter at Jefferson Barracks, and in April, 1833, were taken to Washington. They remained prisoners in Fortress Monroe until discharged, June 4th. After visiting the principal cities of the east, where Black Hawk was much lionized, the party returned to Fort Armstrong much impressed with the power and resources of the white man. Here Black Hawk's pride was completely crushed, he being placed under the guardianship of his hated rival, Keokuk. This was considered an irreparable insult to the fallen chief, which he nursed with much bitterness to the end of his days.

Black Hawk at the age of seventy-one years finally passed away on the 3d of October, 1838, at his home on a small reservation set apart for him in Davis county, Iowa, on the Des Moines river.

In July of the following year his body was stolen by an Illinois physician. Complaint being made by Black Hawk's family Governor Lucas, of Iowa, caused the skeleton to be delivered to him at Burlington in the spring of 1840. The seat of government being moved to Iowa City later in the year, the box containing the remains was deposited in a law office in the latter town, where it remained until the night of January 16, 1853, when the building was destroyed by fire.

Forbearance and honorable dealing on the part of the whites could easily have prevented the Black Hawk war. Squatters were not prevented from encroaching upon the possessions of his people, and at Sycamore creek he would have consented to remove his band peaceably across the river had the ordinary rules of war in respecting a flag of truce been observed by the white men. In fact, the course of the Americans during this struggle was marked by cruelty and disregard for the rules of warfare which was more than savage; women, children and old men were ruthlessly murdered, and they caused the remnant of the band which had crossed the river to be nearly all massacred by the Sioux. A black record but one which must be written.

CHAPTER V.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

With the lapse of time, the passing away of so many of the pioneers and the lack of records in the various communities renders it difficult to attempt to detail the different points in the county at which the early settlements were made, in anything like chronological order. It is certain, however, that the first settlement in the county was near what is now known as Oil City in the town of Sheldon, and Esau Johnson, who located on the Kickapoo in that town on the 1st day of October, 1842, was the first white man who made his home in the county of Monroe.

He built a little cabin about two miles above Oil City and moved into it with his family. His own words probably best describe the manner and reason for his stopping at that place and in an interview given many years ago he said: "In the year 1842 I came with my family down the Wisconsin river on a log raft to the mouth of the Kickapoo, and went to what was then known as Haney's in Richland county. We stayed there and worked on his land until the fall of the same year, when I took an ax and some provisions and started on a prospecting trip up the Kickapoo river until I came to the mouth of Moore's creek, which is in Monroe county. Impressed with the locality I determined to return and bring my family up. Not wishing to walk back to the farm I hollowed out a tree, made myself a couple of paddles and sailed down in my improvised boat. I reached the farm the next day and soon had the boat in good condition for moving my family and what few household goods I had up to our new home. I finally left the 'Haney' farm September 10, 1842, and hired two brothers named Clark to help me move. They agreed for a consideration to stay with me until I had my house built. On the 13th day of October we reached the location I had fixed up and we arranged a timbered shelter for my family until we could cut logs for a house. Three of us got to work and we soon had the work under way. On the 6th of October, just five days after landing, myself and my family moved in.

This I positively assert was the first house and I and my family the first white people to make a permanent settlement in Monroe county. The two Clarks stayed with me until the next day, when they took a boat and returned to Haney's."

Mr. Johnson also states that on the 10th day of October he started for the mouth of the Kickapoo river to get four head of oxen which he had left there, and from there he went to Prairie du Chien, where he got a load of provisions and hired two men to return and work for him. In this trip Mr. Johnson claims to have been the first to travel the present road between Oil City and Prairie du Chien. There were no other settlers except Mr. Johnson and his family up until 1847, and in the spring of that year Sylvester Bacon and William Clark joined him and worked for him until the spring of 1849. Soon after this in that same year Thomas Lewis and Thompson Hazen arrived and located at a point about a half mile from the Johnson home and went into the lumbering business. This they continued to handle until May, 1847, when the business was sold to A. J. Martin; Lewis leaving the county and going down to Grant county and Hazen moved to a point about five miles south of Cashton, where he opened a tavern and located on a farm.

The first white child born in Monroe county was a son of Esau Johnson, who first saw the light in September, 1846, and the photo of this child now hangs in the office of the county clerk of Monroe county, at the court house in the city of Sparta.

With the opening of the state road between Hudson and Prairie du Chien, which passed through the place where Sparta now is, and the laying out of the road between Portage and LaCrosse, came the opportunity for new settlers, which was taken advantage of during the years 1849-50-51. Probably the next point at which any settlement was made prior to 1850 was that of Frank Petit, who came to this county in 1849, which is authenticated by several records, and settled at a place near Sparta, which is now known as "Castle Rock," and he afterwards came to the place where Sparta now stands and was its first settler. In 1850 Charles Clute came with his family and went to work for Esau Johnson at the sawmill of the latter on the Kickapoo river. Clute afterwards took up land in the northern part of the county. In 1851 E. E. Shaw, William Petit, Nelson Turrier and a man by the name of Metzler, settled in the county, and in July of the same year R. S. Kingman and his two brothers, twins named Rosalbo and Alvarbo, came to the county

from Ashtabula, Ohio, and settled with E. E. Shaw and Turrier in the Leon valley.

From that time until the organization of the county settlements at different points were quite frequent, notably that at Leon in 1851 by E. E. Shaw and companions; in the town of Jefferson in 1854 by Thompson Hazen who, as has been before mentioned, opened a hotel known as "Hazen's Corner;" the settlement of the towns which followed the organization of the county in 1854 are treated in separate articles subsequently in this work.

The pioneers who settled in the early day have given many lessons of industry and frugality, coupled with trials, hardships and endurance which so strikingly demonstrates to us the courage and determination of the men of that early time. The first important thing that the settler did was to build himself a house and perhaps until that was finished to live in his immigrant wagon or some rudely improvised shelter. Of course, the house was of logs and very primitive in design, but after it was built, erected by his own hands, it became a home, and in most cases he was content with it. The ingenuity with which the occupants of these log cabins constructed what they called furniture is sometimes quite interesting and, of course, any such manufactured articles, if any existed during the early 50's, were imported from a distance; tables and chairs were made of split logs, the bedstead very often of poles placed over forked sticks driven in the ground; and many devices were invented in the way of fireplaces for heating and cooking purposes.

As soon as the clearing of land was under way the first crop was raised, which usually consisted of a few vegetables, sufficient for the needs of the family; meat was supplied by the rifle of the pioneer; it was plentiful and helped to swell the limited supply of provisions. Mills for the grinding of corn were usually at a long distance, and sometimes the expedient of grinding corn in a coffee mill had to be resorted to, and many other methods devised to make cornmeal flour. But with the advent of more settlers neighborhoods became established, then a school would spring up and here and there a church. The old Indian trails became well-traveled highways and the wilderness was hewn into a semblance of civilization, creating the foundation of what is today one of the great counties of the great state of Wisconsin.

CHAPTER VI.

MAKING A COUNTY.

In the year 1849 a state road was opened between Prairie du Chien and Hudson, which were at that time trading points, passing through the place where Sparta now is and going around by the way of Black River Falls and Clear Water, which afterwards became Eau Claire. A little later on a road was opened between Portage and LaCrosse, following an old Indian trail, affording a way of travel to the settlements of western Wisconsin, which before that time were only reached by way of the rivers. At that time there was no post office nearer than Prairie du Chien, but with the opening of the highways post offices were established at Black River Falls, LaCrosse and several other points. About that time the division of western Wisconsin into counties began to take place; Crawford county, which comprised the whole of western Wisconsin, was set off with Prairie du Chien as the county seat, and out of this territory were carved, at different times, other counties, by the various acts of the legislature.

Originally, in 1849 LaCrosse county comprised all the territory included in its present limits and that of Monroe, Jackson, Trempeleau and Buffalo counties; settlements being rapid in the next few years and the inhabitants somewhat "crowded" as they thought, in 1853, upon application to the legislature, Jackson county was set off, and in 1854 Trempeleau, Buffalo and Monroe counties were established and detached from LaCrosse county. Like all movements looking towards progress there was opposition to the organization of Monroe county right here at home, but nevertheless in March, 1854, a bill creating the county of Monroe passed the legislature, was approved by the Governor March 21st, published March 24th, thereby becoming a law, and Monroe county was placed upon the map. Why it was named "Monroe" is not known, but that its subsequent history justified its bearing the name of that sturdy patriot, James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States, no one can doubt.

While this bill was pending in the legislature there was a lively struggle between the residents of Leon and Sparta as to

which place should be named as the county seat. The arguments of the Spartans prevailed, however, and the bill creating the county named Sparta as the county seat. This act prescribed that all that portion of the county of LaCrosse situated and being in range one east, and ranges one, two, three and four west of township fifteen, sixteen, seventeen and eighteen be set off and organized into a separate county, to be known and designated by the name of the county of Monroe.

It further provided that an election should be held in the county of Monroe on the first Tuesday of the following April, and the polls should be opened in all precincts established on or before the first Tuesday of April; that the vote should be canvassed and returns made thereof to the clerk of the board of supervisors of the town of Leon, who should canvass the same as prescribed by law for the canvass of votes for county officers, and should issue certificates to such persons as received the greatest number of votes for the offices respectively for the town and county officers. That there should be elected at such election a county judge, who should hold his office until the first day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred fifty-eight, and until his successor was elected and qualified. There should also be elected three town supervisors, one to be designated as chairman of the board, who should also be the board of county supervisors. That at such election should also be elected a sheriff, a clerk of the court, clerk of the board of county supervisors, a register of deeds, surveyor and coroner and all other county officers required for the due organization of the county for county and judicial purposes. It also provided that the county of Monroe should consist of one town and the board of supervisors should be the board of county supervisors, and that the said board of county supervisors should have to divide the county into three or more towns at any regular meeting of the board, and also provided that the county seat should be located at the village of Sparta, in the town of Leon. All writs, processes, appeals, suits, indictments, recognizances and other proceedings whatsoever then pending or thereafter commenced, or pending before the Monday next after the first Tuesday of April next, in the county or circuit court of the county of LaCrosse, should be prosecuted to the final judgment, order or decree, might be carried into effect and enforced in like manner as if the counties of LaCrosse and Monroe were constituted one county; and all executions, writs, processes or other proceedings may be directed

and carried into execution and effect as such court shall direct any law on the contrary notwithstanding.

At the election held in April pursuant to this act, seventy votes were cast for the entire county, and R. J. Casselman, Loyd Angle and Peter DeCoursey were elected as the town board of the town of Leon, and thereby became the first county board of supervisors of the county of Monroe. At that election the following county officers were elected: A. H. Blake, county judge; Ed. Walrath, sheriff; Wilber Fisk, register of deeds; John Barker, clerk of the court; Samuel Hoyt, county treasurer; A. H. Cornell, district attorney; E. E. Shaw, clerk of the board of supervisors. Wilber Fisk left the county soon after the election and E. S. Blake filled the vacancy in the office of the register of deeds until the appointment of R. S. Kingman, which occurred in January, 1855.

The county board held its first meeting on the 11th day of April, 1854, at which R. J. Casselman and Loyd Angle were present, and without doing anything the board adjourned to the 14th day of April, and on the 14th the board convened pursuant to the adjournment with R. J. Casselman and Loyd Angle present. The first item of business which was ever transacted by a county board of Monroe county was done at that meeting. The board very solemnly proceeded to pass the resolution to pay the exorbitant price of $12.50 to John Foster for the use of the hall in the "Globe Hotel" and for fuel for the same for one year in accordance with the agreement on file in the office of the clerk. At its next meeting, held on the 2d day of May, 1854, Fredrick A. Childs of Sparta was appointed county surveyor until a surveyor should be duly elected and qualified; there appearing to be little use for a coroner none was elected or appointed at that time.

Under the law as it then existed the county board consisted of the chairman of the board of supervisors of each town, and this prevailed up to the year 1861, when by chapter 129 of the laws of that year the entire system was changed and the board was made to consist of three electors; each county was divided into assembly districts, or if there were not three assembly districts, then into supervisor districts, and one supervisor elected for each district, and this system continued until 1870, when the legislature in its wisdom repealed the chapter 129 of the laws of 1861 and the original system was again adopted, which has ever since been in existence. The county board, made up as a rule of the most representative men in the county, and consists

at the present writing of thirty-six members. As the interests of towns, cities and villages in the equalization of taxes and other matters have been important, the board has consisted in the past, and does at the present time, of strong and representative men, and during the past fifty-seven years it has had as members at different times most all the men who have been distinguished in their various communities in the county. The roster of several hundred names contains those of men who have done things in the upbuilding of the great agricultural, commercial, dairy and fruit growing prosperity and wealth of the county.

The first estate which came into the county court was that of one H. B. Hanshall, and the first record in that court was on the 2nd day of April, 1856, when the bond of the administratrix in the said estate was approved and recorded by George Gale, who was then county judge.

The first term of the circuit court was held at the village of Sparta beginning on the 18th day of September, 1854, the Hon. Hiram Knowlton, judge of the sixth judicial circuit, presiding, and sad to relate the first case which came before his honor was a divorce case in which Ellen Pendelbery was plaintiff and Abraham Pendelbery was defendant. The charge was for desertion for more than one year, to which the defendant made no defense and a decree of divorce was entered on that day by the court giving the care and custody of the minor children to the wife. The action was brought by Denison and Lyndes, attorneys for the plaintiff. At that time it appeared that the district attorney, who had been elected, had left the county and the court on the 18th of September appointed James I. Lyndes to act as district attorney for that term. Upon motion of Mr. Lyndes, Ellworth Lathrop, James Edswell and Carlton E. Rice were admitted as attorneys and counsellers at the law and solicitors in chancery.

The first jury case was that of Samuel Hoyt vs. William Walbridge for trespass. A. Holdes was attorney for the plaintiff and Denison and Lyndes represented the defendant. The first jury ever empanelled in the county was drawn and consisted of the following citizens: J. C. Bean, John DeLaney, A. H. Blake, R. S. Kingman, Riley Roberts, Hiram Anderson, B. B. Jones, William Winters, S. Walrath, A. Fisk, William Kerrigan and J. F. Rathbun. Only one of this number is still living, J. F. Rathbun, who now resides at the city of Tomah. The plaintiff was successful and was awarded $50 damages.

The first county board practiced economy during the year, and at the meeting on March 26, 1855, the clerk's report shows

a total of orders drawn on the county treasurer of $295.87; but soon the expenses began to multiply rapidly when the business affairs of the county were fairly launched. Salaries, court expenses, office rents for the various officers, fees of various kinds provided by law all combined to rapidly increase the tax rate. With the growth of the county business the board found it necessary to have a court house and jail. J. D. Dammon having made a plat of his first division to the village of Sparta, offered to donate block four for a location for the county buildings, and as a court house square. This was accepted by the county board March 6, 1855, and at the meeting held on the 5th of June of the same year the board voted an appropriation of not to exceed $600.00 for a county building. R. J. Casselman, John Foster and H. M. Sanford were appointed a building committee to draft plans, to receive bids and to cause the building to be erected as soon as possible. It was completed for occupancy in 1856, being a frame building containing the court room or hall, and part of the building was partitioned off for a jail. It stood in the middle of block four of Dammon's addition, being the one in which the house now owned by Lee Canfield is situated. Soon after its completion the building was leased to the school district for school purposes, when not in use for holding court; and on Sundays it was used by the Methodists as a church. There were no offices in the building, however, and the necessity of renting offices by the county board continued for several years. Mr. Dammon in 1862 commenced an action against the county to recover possession of the court house site, claiming that the provisions of the deed had been violated as the building was being used for school purposes and for church purposes principally. A special session of the county board was called September 4, 1863, at which it was voted to pay the costs of the suit and settle the same by conveying the property back to Mr. Dammon, which was subsequently done.

The block where the present court house stands, which had been dedicated as a park by William Pettit in 1852, was selected as the site for the county buildings, and pursuant to a resolution of the board at the November session in 1863, the court house and sheriff's dwelling were erected in 1865 at a cost of $22,500. This building was considered quite ample at the time and served the purposes very well until the growth in population and in the county's business made it necessary to erect more modern buildings. A modern brick jail was built in 1890 pursuant to a resolution of the county board, costing about $17,000, and in 1894 the

board passed an ordinance providing for the building of a new court house, which was erected in 1895-96. It is a three-story stone building, with plain but handsome exterior of red sandstone, having good court rooms, a county board room, commodious offices for all the county officers, with ample vault room in all the offices where records are kept for a long time in the future. It is heated by steam, electric lighted and has all the modern conveniences with steel furniture in all the vaults.

In 1871 the county being then divided into three districts for the care of the poor, the necessity of establishing a county institution where paupers could be cared for became apparent. At a session of the board in February that year a resolution was passed to purchase a farm for the purpose and a committee consisting of James Thomson, J. Caney, D. Homes, W. Woodard and J. B. Marsden, were appointed to carry it out. The committee reported at the November session the purchase of the farm of David Cole of 200 acres, situated in the town of Adrian, for the sum of $5,000. This continued to be used as the poor farm until 1899, but it being some distance from the county seat and the buildings being too small for the growing pauper population the county board authorized its sale, and in 1899 it was disposed of and another farm purchased just north of the city of Sparta, in the town of Sparta. In 1900 a brick home for the poor with modern conveniences was built upon this farm, costing about $11,000.

About this time there was considerable agitation with regard to building a county insane asylum, which finally culminated in 1901, when the county board decided to turn the poor house into a county insane asylum, which was done, and subsequently in 1902 a poor house was erected on another part of the farm. In 1909 the county board purchased the farm of Grant Rogers of 120 acres, which was adjacent to the farm owned by the county. Subsequently and in compliance with the requirements of the state board of control a separate building was erected in which was installed a modern steam heating plant. A large steel water tank, giving heavy pressure, was then erected which supplies the buildings with water and affords ample fire protection. So that at the present time this county owns a fine farm of 280 acres within a mile of the city limits of Sparta, which is equipped with modern conveniences, a home for the poor capable of housing in comfort thirty inmates, and with the heating plant and water system makes a most complete equipment, representing an investment of about $70,000, all of which is fully paid, and at the time

of this publication the county is free from debt, a situation which reflects much credit upon the men who have in the past served on the county board and brought to bear upon the county's business all the careful thought and business acumen which they applied to their own business.

Not only has the county been fortunate in the building up of its own institutions, but through the efforts of some of its citizens, backed up by natural advantages, one state and one government institution has been established within its borders—the state public school for dependent children, now located at Sparta, and the government Indian school, located near Tomah. In each instance there was a lively contest between several cities of the state for the location of these institutions; the competition was keen, but against great odds in the many advantageous offers from other places our citizens were victorious and landed the prizes. The state school being established at Sparta by an act of the legislature known as chapter 377, laws of 1885, and now consists of a central or administration building, with several detached cottages, and a hospital, a heating plant and baking plant, all situated on a farm of 165 acres, part of which lies within the limits of the city of Sparta.

The Indian school, established by the government at Tomah, situated on a farm donated by the citizens of Tomah and lying about two miles north of that city, consisting of several large buildings, including the administration building, superintendent's residence, dormitories for boys and girls, a heating plant, hospital and several farm buildings. In this institution Indian boys and girls are given education in the common branches and in addition to that girls are taught needle work and domestic science, and the boys are instructed in farming, carpenter work and other useful occupations.

When the first settlers located in the valleys of the county there were but a few thousand people in the whole state of Wisconsin, and at the establishment of the county government in 1854 there were not more than 700 people in the entire county. The stream of immigration came rapidly, however, and in 1860 the county had grown to a population of 8,000, and from that time forth it rapidly increased so that in 1870 it was 16,550; in 1880 it was 21,607; in 1890 it was 23,211; in 1900, 28,103; and in 1910, 28,888, so that the growth has been well distributed over the past years, has been normal and kept pace with the development of its resources. Its farming population is above the average in methods and intelligence as the wonderful increase in the dairy

interests and the great progress made in the raising of small fruits will testify, each of which subjects is treated in another chapter. Its people as a rule are progressive in the matter of education and at the present time its school system is of the best; and several of the towns in the county have taken the initiative in that most important subject—the building of good roads. Especially is this true of the town of Sparta and through the enterprise of the officers of this town several miles of macadam highway have been constructed and the town has become well and favorably mentioned throughout the state as one which has been a pioneer in this movement.

The year 1911 has seen awakenings in some parts of the county with regard to the fact that its resources are as yet nowhere near fully developed, and through the experiments made by some of its progressive farmers and through the efforts of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association a strong impetus has been given to the development of fruit lands not only for berries, but for the raising of apples. Experimental orchards, notably the one grown by Fred Muehlencamp in the town of Ridgeville, and that of J. W. Leverich, in the town of Angelo, have demonstrated beyond a question that a large portion of the ridge and valley lands are adapted to the raising of fall and winter apples and also several varieties of grapes. The prospects of the people of the county for the future seems doubly assured as the interests are varied, comprising cranberry culture, dairy interests, the raising of small fruits and bush berries, diversified farming and the prospects of the development in the years to come of the apple and the grape industries. With fertile ridge lands and its well watered valleys Monroe county gives promise of becoming one of the garden spots of the state of Wisconsin.

In the official life of the county there have been many lively contests for the various offices, especially for those positions which until a few years ago paid fees. For many years the sheriff's office was a storm center of many political battles when the fees in one term of office were extremely large, which condition, however, the county board subsequently remedied by putting this office on a salary, as has been done with all the county offices; certainly a good business move much to the advantage of the taxpayers financially and with no detriment to the service rendered. The office of sheriff has been held by many well-known characters, among whom may be mentioned the names of Edward Walrath, one of the pioneer settlers; C. W. McMillan, George B. Robinson, N. P. Lee, E. Bartels, E. R. Jones, A. J. Carnahan, Leo

Vieth and many others, a complete list of which is given at the conclusion of this chapter. Perhaps the most remarkable record in this office is that of C. W. McMillan, who appears to have held it at different times for five terms, and at other times he served as deputy sheriff and under sheriff, which is a tribute to the popularity and political acumen of Mr. McMillan in his day.

The office of the county treasurer, county clerk and clerk of the court have been much sought after and held by many men prominent in the affairs of the county. The office of the county judge has been occupied by such men as Col. George Graham, of Tomah; C. M. Masters, of Sparta; S. W. Button, of Sparta, and the present incumbent, Col. R. B. McCoy, who has the honor of being elected for that office for four terms, beginning in 1898. The jurisdiction of this court in this county has never been enlarged to include civil and criminal matters, as has been the case in some counties in this state, but it consists of the administration of the estates of deceased persons, with authority to sentence officers who plead guilty of certain offenses, the examination and commitment of insane persons, and the appointment of guardians of minors and those who are incapable of managing their own affairs, and the commitment to state institutions in such cases as are provided by law. By a law passed by the legislature in 1910 and 1911 this court may hold terms at Tomah as well as at the county seat, and the third Tuesday of each month has been designated as the term day at Tomah when all matters may be heard.

There has been brought to the office of district attorney the service of many able lawyers in the county, beginning with that of L. W. Graves, who served one term, beginning in 1861, and afterwards became well known as a brilliant and resourceful trial lawyer. It was also held by Romanzo Bunn, who became judge of the United States court for the western district of Wisconsin; by J. M. Morrow, whose name even now is so well known throughout the state of Wisconsin and who served as circuit court judge of the sixth judicial circuit. Mr. Morrow held the office of district attorney for four terms at different times. David F. Jones served four terms as district attorney and later was appointed by President McKinley as United States district attorney for the western district of Wisconsin, which office he held at the time of his death.

The office of the register of deeds was and now is hotly contested for, and has been held by such men as R. J. Kingman,

A. H. Condit, W. G. Williams, James R. Lyon and others prominent in county affairs.

The following is a complete list of all the county officers from 1854 to 1911, giving the years in which they went into office and the length of time each served:

COUNTY JUDGES.

A. H. Blake, 1854-58; W. W. Jackson, 1858-62; G. E. Pratt, 1862-66; George Graham, 1866-68; L. B. Noyes, 1868-70; T. D. Steele, 1870-78; C. M. Masters, 1878-86; W. M. Graham, 1886-90; S. W. Button, 1890-98; R. B. McCoy, 1898 to now.

SHERIFFS.

E. Walrath, 1854-57; John Foster, 1857-59; C. W. McMillan, 1859-61; J. H. Allen, 1861-63; J. A. Gilman, 1863-65; C. W. McMillan, 1865-67; G. A. Fisk, 1867-69; D. B. Bon, 1869-71; L. Johnson, 1871-73; George B. Robinson, 1873-75; C. W. McMillan, 1875-77; N. P. Lee, 1877-79; C. W. McMillan, 1879-81; E. Bartels, 1881-83; C. W. McMillan, 1883-85; E. R. Jones, 1885-87; C. T. Angle, 1887-89; E. R. Jones, 1889-91; James O'Conner, 1891-93; D. W. Fulmer, 1893-95; Henry Coome, 1895-97; L. H. Couger, 1897-99; A. J. Carnahan, 1899-01; Leo Vieth, 1901-03; W. B. Cassels, 1903-05; H. E. Falk, 1905-07; Charles Millard, 1907-09; George Henry, 1909-11; C. W. McFadden, 1911—.

COUNTY TREASURERS.

Samuel Hoyt, 1855-59; A. A. Rendall, 1859-61; L. S. Fisher, 1861-63; G. H. Ledyard, 1863-73; Francis Avery, 1873-81; W. F. Lee, 1881-85; H. H. Cremer, 1885-87; C. G. Heitman, 1887-91; C. D. Hall, 1891-93; George P. Stevens, 1893-97; J. A. Mosher, 1897-01; W. A. Jones, 1901-05; A. L. Fowlmader, 1905-09; E. F. Babcock, 1909—.

COUNTY CLERKS.

L. S. Fisher, 1857-59; A. F. Childs, 1859-61; S. Aldrich, 1861-63; T. D. Steele, 1863-67; S. D. Hollester, 1867-69; James Lowry, 1869-71; S. D. Hollester, 1871-75; W. P. Palmer, 1875-77; J. E. Perry, 1877-79; H. H. Cremer, 1879-81; O. C. Berg, 1881-83; T. L. Martin, 1883-87; J. P. Rice, 1887-91; H. H. Cremer, 1891-93; C. E. Heitman, 1893-95; G. Heitman, 1895-99; C. Sutherland, 1899-03; C. B. Drowabzky, 1903-07; T. R. Talbot, 1907—.

CLERKS OF COURT.

John Banker, 1854-57; G. B. Holden, 1857-59; Cyrus Centis, 1859-61; E. Nutting, 1861-63; L. B. Noyes, 1863-65; S. H. Stearns, 1865-71; Jacob Roid, 1871-73; S. H. Stearns, 1873-77; Joel Brown, 1877-79; S. H. Stearns, 1879-81; J. E. Perry, 1881-83; D. G. Williams, 1883-85; M. J. McOmber, 1885-87; I. R. Bryan, 1887-91; H. Euckhansin, 1891-95; Henry Graf, 1895-99; G. F. Lillie, 1899-03; Ole Jackson, 1903-11; O. H. Doxrud, 1911—.

REGISTERS OF DEEDS.

Wilbur Fisk, 1855-57; R. S. Kingman, 1857-59; A. H. Condit, 1859-61; P. Rawson, 1861-63; M. A. Thayer, 1863-69; J. M. Tan, 1869-73; J. W. Cunan, 1873-77; W. G. Williams, 1877-81; J. R. Lyon, 1881-83; J. B. Adams, 1883-85; W. H. Jackson, 1885-89; C. A. Erickson, 1889-91; J. P. Rice, 1891-93; H. M. Sowle, 1893-95; John A. Sholts, 1895-99; C. H. Stevens, 1899-03; T. C. Longwell, 1903-07; D. F. Davis, 1907-11; W. A. Holden, 1911—.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

A. B. Cornell, 1854-59; L. W. Graves, 1859-61; C. E. Rice, 1861-63; Romanzo Bunn, 1863-67; G. E. Prott, 1867-69; G. A. Richardson, 1869-71; J. M. Morrow, 1871-77; A. E. Bleekman, 1877-79; J. M. Morrow, 1879-85; D. F. Jones, 1885-91; R. A. Richards, 1891-93; D. F. Jones, 1893-95; George Graham, 1895-97; B. H. Hackett, 1897-99; H. C. Altizer, 1899-01; B. H. Hackett, 1901 (died before taking office); Howard Teasdale, 1901-05; W. B. Naylor, Jr., 1905-09; T. P. Abel, 1909—.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS.

M. R. Gage, 1862-69; C. W. Kellogg, 1869-71; A. E. Howard, 1871-73; N. H. Holden, 1873-75; A. E. Howard, 1875-77; N. H. Holden, 1877-81; A. F. Brandt, 1881-87; J. P. Galiger, 1887-93; T. M. Bowler, 1893-95; A. A. Thompson, 1895-01; G. H. Robertson, 1901-05; M. M. Haney, 1905—.

COUNTY SURVEYORS.

Isaac Thompson, 1854-57; F. A. Childs, 1857-59; A. D. Ingalls, 1859-61; L. E. Amidon, 1861-63; L. S. Ingalls, 1863-65; Webster Kenyon, 1865-67; O. R. Dahl, 1867-69; C. C. Miller, 1869-71; G. Spurier, 1871-73; A. S. Ingalls, 1873-79; A. B. Holden, 1879-81; W. Kenyon, 1881-83; E. Neuman, 1883-85; W. Kenyon, 1885-86;

TRUMAN R. TALBOT

A. B. Holden, 1886-88; W. Kenyon, 1888-96; H. Laurer, 1896-98; Alex. McCaskey, 1898-1900; Fred Holden, 1900-19—; G. Schnider, ——; F. Holden, ——.

CORONERS.

C. P. McClure, 1859-61; C. W. McMillan, 1861-71; David Ben, 1871-74; George B. Robinson, 1875-77; C. W. McMillan, 1877-79; D. J. Enderby, 1879-81; C. W. McMillan, 1881-83; James O'Conner, 1883-87; E. R. Jones, 1887-89; C. Fangle, 1889-91; O. H. Doxrud, 1891-92; James O'Conner, 1892-95; D. W. Fullmer, 1895-97; H. Coome, 1897-99; L. H. Conger, 1899-01; A. J. Carnahan, 1901-03; Leo Vieth, 1903-05; W. B. Cassels, 1905-07; H. G. Falk, 1907-09; George Henry, 1909—.

SENATORS.

Monroe county since its organization has at different times been in a number of different senatorial districts, and this county has furnished the following senators:

John A. Chandler, of Sparta, in the sessions of 1865 and 1866; DeWitt C. Wilson, of Sparta, in the session of 1868; Adelbert E. Bleekman, of Tomah, in the sessions of 1874 and 1875; Charles K. Erwin, of Tomah, in the sessions of 1882, 1883, 1885 and 1887; H. W. Barker, of Sparta, elected in 1907 for a term of four years; Howard Teasdale, elected in 1910; now holding the office.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

For a number of years the county of Monroe was a part of the assembly district comprised of LaCrosse and Monroe counties, so that it was not until about 1861 that a member came from this county. A few years later the county was divided into two assembly districts, and afterwards into only one, which is the situation at the present time.

A list is here given beginning with the year in which a member appeared from Monroe county, and after each name will be found the year of the session or sessions at which each member served:

James H. Allen, Sparta, session of 1873; William J. Austin, Leon, session of 1881; William Y. Baker, Oakdale, session of 1878; William A. Barber, Warrens, session of 1882; Jesse Bennett, Sparta, session of 1869; Chauncey Blakeslee, Sparta, session of 1877; Adelbert E. Bleekman, Tomah, session of 1873; William H. Blyton, Sparta, sessions of 1883-85-89; Robert Campbell,

Glendale, session of 1880; David D. Cheney, Sparta, session of 1871; D. W. Cheney, Sparta, session of 1891; Albert T. Colburn, Cataract, session of 1876; James D. Condit, Sparta, sessions of 1858-78-79; Harry Doxtader, Tomah, session of 1877; Lewis S. Fisher, Sparta, session of 1887; Miles LeRoy Hineman, Tomah, session of 1887; J. R. Hinckley, Tomah, session of 1883; Charles A. Hunt, Melvina, sessions of 1868-70; William W. Jackson, Tomah, sessions of 1863-75; Fredrick P. Johnson, Ontario, session of 1899; Steven B. Johnson, Tomah, session of 1867; David F. Jones, Sparta, session of 1897; Evan R. Jones, Sparta, session of 1901; John R. Jones, Leon, sessions of 1907-09; James R. Lyon, Glendale, session of 1889; Thomas L. Martin, Wilton, session of 1895; Thomas McCaul, Tomah, session of 1874; John J. McKay, Sparta, session of 1860; Joseph M. Morrow, Sparta, session of 1862; John O'Brien, Wilton, session of 1881; Charles E. Quigg, Tomah, session of 1893; Carlton E. Rice, Sparta, session of 1864; John F. Richards, Tomah, session of 1872; Eli O. Rudd, Rudd's Mills, session of 1872; George P. Stevens, Tomah, sessions of 1903-05; Joseph M. Tarr, Tunnel City, session of 1865; Mason A. Thayer, Sparta, session of 1882; James Tormey, Tomah, session of 1891; George R. Vincent, Tomah, session of 1891; Levi Wallace, Oil City, session of 1885; Eli Waste, Sparta, sessions of 1874-75-80; Charles D. Wells, Tomah, session of 1876; DeWitt C. Wilson, Sparta, session of 1866.

CHAPTER VII.

THE LEGEND OF CASTLE ROCK.

Among the natural curiosities to be found in Monroe county there is, situated near Sparta, an enormous bluff which is about 600 feet high, having on its summit a large circular rock, and from its resemblance of an ancient castle it has received the name of Castle Rock. It is about five miles northeast from the city and surrounded by a range of bluffs, and is plainly visible for a long distance along the St. Paul railway when approaching Sparta from the east. For a great many years it has been a resort for picnic parties and travelers and a curiosity even to those who reside near it. The top can now be reached by means of a ladder and a view from its summit unfolds a beautiful picture such as only Wisconsin can produce, and on a clear day even the hills of Minnesota are plainly visible. Around this beauty spot has been drawn a delightful romantic legend from the pen of D. McBride, Esq., now deceased, formerly one of the editors of the Sparta Herald, which runs as follows:

"Some 200 years ago a roving band of Senecas made a raid upon the land of the Dakotas, while the latter were on the war-path, in pursuit of the Cheyennes, and captured Yah-ha-rah (Silent Water), daughter of Keneau-ton-aken (War Eagle). A terrible storm having struck down the Seneca chief and the majority of his followers soon after the raid, his brother, Po-ga-mie, took the captive girl to the French missionary station, at the point now known as Mackinaw, where she was ransomed by the missionaries and put under the charge of the 'sisters' until such a time as she could be returned to her relatives. At this place Silent Water made the acquaintance of a young Frenchman by the name of LeClere, who had been banished from his native land for killing a person of rank in a duel. The two lonely ones became sympathizers, and a tender affection sprang up between them, which was soon interrupted by the appearance of War Eagle, who had, after some months, succeeded in finding the whereabouts of his child and had come to take her home. LeClere was lonely after Silent Water had gone, and he resolved to seek

his love in the land of the Dakotas. Taking an interpreter with him he started out on his journey, and after many stirring adventures reached the camp of War Eagle. He now found that the old chief had betrothed his daughter to a favorite, Mame-tah, who looked on LaClere with distrust and jealousy. Finding that their love was hopeless if they remained in the land of the Dakotas, the young lovers planned an elopement. They left the lodges while War Eagle was on the war-path, but were closely followed by Mam-e-tah, who led them a hard chase, until he was finally slain by the arrows of Silent Water. In their wanderings, for they were journeying towards the missionary station, the young lovers discovered the bluff, now known as Castle Rock, the beauty of which so charmed Silent Water that she begged LeClere to make a lodge there for the season, at least, and he reluctantly complied. The rock became their castle, and on its very summit was their wigwam erected. Autumn was beginning to brighten the oak leaves with a ruddier hue, and the lovers had concluded that they would shortly continue their journey towards the missionary station when an incident occurred that dashed all of their hopes from them. War Eagle, who had spent the intervening time in searching for his child, came suddenly upon them, just as they were preparing for their departure. Silent Water discovered him and his followers sitting at the base of the rock one morning upon arising from her couch. The chief and his men were in counsel, and when the counsel was ended the former advanced close to the rock and bade his child, whom he could not see, to come down, declaring at the same time that he intended to kill LeClere and to take her home. The lovers resolved at once to die together if either must die; but they also concluded to sell their lives dearly, and they made instant preparation to defend their fortress. The siege lasted for several days —in fact, until all the arrows and ammunition of the besieged ones had been used, then, clasped in each others arms, they awaited the end. War Eagle, on finding himself no longer opposed, boldly ascended the rock and aimed an arrow at the breast of LeClere, which was anticipated by Silent Water, who sprang forward in time to receive a death wound, thus for a moment saving her lover's life. Exasperated by her death LeClere smote War Eagle with his weapon, and having rendered the old chief senseless, hurried the body from the eminence. A moment later the Frenchman yielded up his spirit at the hands of War Eagle's braves.

"The rude storms of 200 years," says the romance, "have

torn and crumbled the stately form and graceful battlements into small rocks and sandy debris at the base of the rock. Its beautiful flowering shrubbery and noble crown of evergreens have long since disappeared. Naught but the scraggy stubs and roots of the tall red cedars that once adorned the lofty summit are left to tell the sad and melancholy tale of the fearful tragedy at Castle Rock."

CHAPTER VIII.

RAILROADS.

CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL.

Running through the county of Monroe are two good systems of railroads which have brought not a little to the development of the resources and interests of this county, as well as of the state of Wisconsin, and a brief outline of the history of these two great lines deserves a place in this work. For after all that may be said it is plain to be seen from the records of the past that the real development of the county began with the establishment of the railroad system affording, of course, a rapid and cheap method of transportation when otherwise food, clothing and supplies of all kinds and public travel were accomplished by means of the old-fashioned stages and freight-hauling lines, with teams.

The LaCrosse and Milwaukee Railroad Company was incorporated by an act of the legislature, approved on the 2nd day of April, 1852. Its first president was Byron Kilborn, a man who played such a prominent part in the development of the city of Milwaukee and of the state. In 1854 stock subscriptions were obtained, and a survey having been made the general line of the road was established on what is practically the same route now used by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway between Milwaukee and LaCrosse. Previous to this, however, in 1851, the Milwaukee and Fond du Lac Railroad Company was incorporated and in 1853 the company received its charter under the name of Milwaukee, Fond du Lac and Green Bay railroad. By an act of the legislature, approved June 27, 1853, these two railroads were allowed and authorized to consolidate, which they did, and began the building of the road towards Fond du Lac later on in 1854. The Milwaukee, Fond du Lac and Green Bay railroad was consolidated with the LaCrosse and Milwaukee company, assuming the latter name and proceeded with the construction of the road already commenced, by turning it in the direction of LaCrosse.

In 1836 congress donated a large grant of land to the state to

assist in railroad purposes, and the western part of this was conferred by the state to the LaCrosse and Milwaukee company after the consolidation, and on March 14, 1857, the road was completed as far as Portage, ninety-eight miles from Milwaukee and just about one-half way to what is now the city of LaCrosse. The times were hard during the year 1857-58 and the railroad, in common with other business interests, suffered very much and there were a number of changes in its officers. The end of the year 1857 found this little railroad with a debt of $8,263,660.91, while the entire stock issue of the road amounted to $7,687,540.26. The annual report of that year is truly a story of financial embarrassment and business difficulties. The report set out as fully as the officials dared to but in a much guarded manner the disastrous results of the acts of the legislature and other official corruption by which the land grant of the previous year was obtained. On the 27th day of September, 1857, the road passed into the hands of Selah Chamberlain, who had been the original contractor and builder of a portion of it. He leased it from the LaCrosse and Milwaukee company and continued with the construction of the road, and the whole line was opened up from Milwaukee to LaCrosse on the first day of October, 1858.

In 1860 Chamberlain surrendered the lease to Messrs. Broson & Sutter, the trustees of the second mortgage holders at this time. An order was made by the United States District Court appointing Col. Hans Crocker as receiver of the western division of the road from Portage to LaCrosse. He was also subsequently appointed receiver of the eastern division from Portage to Milwaukee, and after taking possession of the entire road he operated it until the 12th day of June, 1863, when by an order of the court he surrendered the western division to the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company as purchaser, and turned over the eastern division of the same company to operate under him as receiver, in which capacity he continued to act until January 9, 1866, when the entire road went into the possession of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company. Previous to this the Chicago and St. Paul Railroad Company had been organized and started to build a line between Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and on the first day of January, 1872, the Milwaukee and St. Paul company formally purchased the Chicago and St. Paul railroad. This was made by giving the bonds of the St. Paul company for about $4,000,000 in gold, payable in London in 1902, bearing 7 per cent interest. The road between Milwaukee and Chicago was not completed until 1872, and in the following year was transferred to

the Milwaukee and St. Paul company and a route 410 miles long between Milwaukee and St. Paul then completed. The road continued to operate under the name of Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad until February, 1874, when by an act of the legislature the name was changed to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company, which name it has borne ever since.

In 1874 the legislature passed what was known as the "Potter" law, which limited the rates for passengers and freight traffic, and this provided for a board of railroad commissioners. This law went into effect May 1, 1874, and George H. Paul, John W. Hoyt and Joseph Hosborn were appointed railroad commissioners. At about this time there was considerable feeling on the part of the people against the railroad company on account of the fact that the railroads regarded the "Potter" law as unconstitutional and refused to reduce their charges for the passage and freight traffic until compelled to do so by a decision of the supreme court of the state.

In 1876, however, the "Potter" law was repealed and a law passed establishing the maximum prices for freights, and since that time there has been considerable legislation which has resulted in the present law giving supervision of railroads to the jurisdiction of a railroad commission appointed by the governor.

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway has completed the line to the coast, beginning at Mobridge, South Dakota, where it joins on to the end of the old line under the name of Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound railway. While the two systems are practically one they are run under separate management, and through this county there now passes daily two of the finest passenger trains, perhaps, in the world, the "Olympian" and the "Columbian," fitted with every convenience known for the comfort of a traveler.

THE NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY.

In the year 1873 the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company constructed its line through this county. This company was first organized as the Illinois and Wisconsin Railway Company and was to run the line from Chicago to the Wisconsin state line. It was consolidated, however, with the Rock River Valley Union railroad, which was to run from the state line to Fond du Lac and thus to form what was afterwards designated the St. Paul and Fond du Lac Air Line Railway Company.

In 1859 the road was sold to a syndicate of capitalists and was reorganized under the present Chicago and Northwestern

Railway Company. Subsequently the Dixon, Rockford and Kenosha and the Galena and Chicago railroads became consolidated with and a part of the Northwestern in June, 1864, and in October that same year it absorbed the Peninsular railway, and in 1869 the Detroit and Madison railway, and in 1871 the Baraboo Air Line, running from Madison, and in due course the Northwestern absorbed the Winona and St. Peter running from Winona to New Ulm, Minnesota, and thence extended to Lake Kanipeska, Dakota, 320 miles from the Mississippi river. The line was built from Madison to Elroy, where it formed connections with the West Wisconsin railroad, and this and the other line formed the shortest route from Chicago to St. Paul, only lacking a short length to fill the gap between Winona and Elroy, but while this was not a very great distance and the difficulties encountered in constructing this line were tremendous. There was in existence a company called the LaCrosse, Trempeleau and Prescott Railway Company which contemplated building a railroad from Winona, running southwest into Monroe county. The Northwestern company purchased this road from Winona junction, finished the track to Sparta, Monroe county, and opened the whole line for regular traffic with a grand excursion on the 25th of September, 1873. The line from Madison to Sparta passes through one of the most picturesque portions of Wisconsin, and nowhere in the state can more beautiful scenery be found. Passing through Madison, the lake country, it skirts the shores of Devil's lake, goes by the dells of the Baraboo river, and runs into the beautiful hill country between Elroy and Sparta. But this beautiful hill country was the means of a vast expenditure of money, perhaps greater than any other present road in the middle west. Among the difficulties met with were the numerous springs of water, and many devices had to be resorted to in order to continue the work and take care of the flow. It became necessary to make three long tunnels between Kendall and Sparta, the longest of which, "No. 3," is situated in the town of Ridgeville and is 3,800 feet in length and cost nearly $1,000,000 to construct. The other two, "No. 1" and "No. 2," between Norwalk and Wilton, and Wilton to Kendall, are about 1,700 feet in length.

This great company has grown to be one of the important railroads of the country, and a map of its lines shows the vast territory reached by its various ramifications; and the traffic has demanded not only the building of direct routes, but great hauling capacity for freights to and from the far west, so that in order to avoid the heavy grades between Elroy and Sparta the

Northwestern company caused to be incorporated in 1910 what is known as the "Milwaukee, Sparta and Northwestern Railway Company," which has constructed an air line in the short space of one year from Milwaukee to Sparta, passing through the eastern and central portion of the county, piercing the range of hills at Tunnel City, near the tunnel of the St. Paul company, and crossing the tracks of the St. Paul a few miles east of the city of Sparta. At the time this work will be distributed trains will be in operation on this road.

CHAPTER IX.

THE WEST WISCONSIN RAILROAD.

Closely connected with the history of the village, now the city of Tomah, was the construction of what was known as the West Wisconsin railroad, from Tomah to Black River Falls. There was considerable agitation with regard to the building of this road among the citizens of both places, and in view of the advantages for transportation purposes, the two communities subscribed for a large amount of stock in order that the road might be built.

Accordingly the movement was set on foot to take advantage of national aid by the granting of lands in this state to assist in the construction of railroads. An act of Congress passed the 5th day of May, 1864, among other things made a special grant of certain lands in this state for the construction of a railroad from Tomah, in the county of Monroe, to the St. Croix river or lake between townships twenty-five and thirty-one, and from thence to Lake Superior and Bayfield. To digress a moment, the construction of this road as contemplated, if it had been completed clear through to Bayfield and in operation today, undoubtedly would have had a great influence upon the past history of not only the city of Tomah, but the city of Black River Falls, for it would run through a rich country.

On March 20, 1865, the legislature of this state by a joint resolution accepted the grant as provided in this act of congress. Previous to this a railroad company had been incorporated by an act of the legislature, approved April 1, 1863, and was originally known as the "Tomah and St. Croix Railway Company." It was granted the right to build a road from Tomah in the county of Monroe, or on the right of way of the Milwaukee and LaCrosse Railway Company, or any other railroad running out of Tomah by way of Black River Falls, and from there by the most feasible route to such point on Lake St. Croix, between townships twenty-five and thirty-one, as the directors should determine. This act was called "an act of incorporators, the Tomah and Lake St. Croix Railroad Company," and to repeal and annul a portion of

the grant of land heretofore made to the LaCrosse and Milwaukee Railroad Company.

The list of the incorporators of this railroad here given contains the names of a number of men who afterwards attained prominence in the state of Wisconsin. Here they are: William Wilson and William Carson, of Dunn county; Joseph Thorpe and R. F. Wilson, of Eau Claire county; Andrew S. Greg and H. S. Allen, of Chippewa county; A. Gaylord, of Polk county; N. S. Dunbar and Charles B. Cox, of Pierce county; H. L. Humphrey, of St. Croix; Miles D. Prindle, of Pepin county; George M. Gilkey, of Buffalo county; R. C. Field, of Trempeleau; Carl C. Pope and William T. Price, of Jackson county; Richard Dewhurst, of Clark county, and C. D. Spaulding, of Monroe county.

Afterwards, and on the 6th day of April, 1866, the name of the company was changed to that of the West Wisconsin Railway Company, and the construction of the road was commenced. The first strip of it between Tomah and Black River Falls was built in the summer of 1868, and train service was started regularly between Tomah and Black River Falls, which continued up until November, 1873, at which time trouble arose between the company and the town of Tomah from the fact that the company claimed that the town had not kept its contract with regard to the subscription of stock, and threatened to tear up the line from Warren's Mills to Tomah and thus cut the village off from Jackson county. This threat was finally put into execution and the company sent a crew of men down to that end of the line, and on the last Sunday of November, 1872, they tore up the track between Tomah and Warren's Mills. It was only accomplished after strong resistance by the citizens of the village and the excitement ran high at the time. During the same year, 1872, the company constructed a track through Warren's Mills to Elroy, making a junction at the latter place with the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company, and by this means, as well as by the tearing up of the track from Tomah to Warren's Mills, great injury was inflicted upon the business interests of Tomah and the citizens were very indignant and did not propose to tamely submit to such high-handed procedure. Accordingly, on the 29th of January, 1873, a bill was introduced in the legislature by the Hon. A. E. Bleekman, then the member of the assembly from Monroe county, entitled "a bill requiring the West Wisconsin Railroad Company to relay, maintain and operate its road from Tomah to Warren's Mills in Monroe county." The bill was referred to the judiciary committee, which reported it back

again with amendments and recommended its passage, and after a warm fight in the legislature it passed both houses and was approved by the governor February 18, 1873. The company, however, defied this act of the legislature, refused to comply with it in any manner, under the claim that the act was unconstitutional, and thus began, perhaps, the first chapter in the history of railroad legislation in the state of Wisconsin regarding the acts of such corporations.

The fact that the company failed to comply with this law compelled the citizens of Tomah to go to the courts, and accordingly upon an application made to the supreme court and on the 29th day of August, 1873, leave was granted to commence action against the company, and the attorney-general instituted proceedings in the nature of quo warranto, to have declared forfeited the defendant's charter, and asked that the company be dissolved under the act of February 13, 1873, above mentioned. The company in its answer to this writ claimed that the act was unconstitutional and nugatory, and demurred to the complaint on the following grounds: First, that the court had not jurisdiction of the subject matter. Second, that the complaint did not state facts sufficient to entitle the plaintiff to the relief demanded herein, or to any relief.

This action was brought to hearing upon the demurrer at the January, 1874, term of the supreme court, and the demurrer was overruled. The defendant company then answered and the village in turn demurred to the answer set up by the company on the ground that it did not state facts sufficient to constitute a defense. When the matter came up for hearing the court held that the company, in discontinuing the road and taking up the track from Warren's Mills to Tomah, violated the provisions of its charter and its duty to the state under its charter; and that the railroad company was required by chapter thirty-one of the laws of 1873, being the act of February 13th, to relay and operate that part of the road which it had originally received a charter to build, and was bound to maintain it; namely, that portion of the line which they had, as has been stated, torn up between Tomah and Warren's Mills. The court entered an order, sustained the demurrer to the company's answer with leave to the company to amend by the first day of the next term.

This decision of the court was a body blow to the claim of the company, and in order to save further litigation a proposition was made to the village of Tomah to settle the case by a payment of a sum of money. A meeting of the citizens was called and

the matter considered, and after one or two stormy sessions the proposition of the company to pay $10,000 in consideration of the dropping of all litigations was finally accepted, and this ended the matter. By an act of the legislature February 13, 1876, the act of February 13, 1873, was repealed and the building of the line from Warren's Mills to Elroy was legalized. The member of the assembly from Tomah at this time was Charles D. Wells. Portions of the old road bed from Tomah to Warren's Mills may still be seen, mute monuments of those stirring times which lead not only to physical violence, but costly litigation on the part of this little community to maintain its rights against a corporation.

CHAPTER X.

MONROE COUNTY NEWSPAPERS.

BY L. B. SQUIER.

MONROE CITIZEN.

The beginning of newspaper work in Monroe county dates from some time in the year 1854, when L. P. Rising began the publication of a small paper called the Monroe Citizen. Mr. Rising came from Cattaragus County, New York, bringing with him a knowledge of the printer's trade and a small printing outfit. He settled near the western line of the county, about two miles from Sparta. Here he cultivated a small farm and also got out a paper about 8x12 inches in size, which he printed on a press of his own construction. Nominally it was issued at Sparta and the subscription price was $1.00 per year. It did not appear with regularity, but at intervals, according to the opportunities of the eccentric farmer-editor. The period of existence of the Citizen was limited to about two years.

SPARTA HERALD.

This was the first regular newspaper in Monroe county; was published under different names at different periods in its history. The Sparta Watchman was established at Sparta in the spring of 1855 by Milton Montgomery and J. D. Condit. This was prior to the entrance of any railroads into the county and the printing outfit obtained at Beaver Dam was brought to Sparta by wagon. After publishing the paper one year Montgomery and Condit sold it to Lucius M. Rose, who had been connected with the Watertown Chronicle. Mr. Rose changed the name of the paper to Monroe Freeman, and published it until the spring of 1858, when it was purchased by David McBride, who had previously published the Mauston Star. He changed the name to the Sparta Herald, which the paper has retained to the present time with the exception of the two years 1867-1869. In the spring of 1867 the paper passed into Democratic control and was called the Sparta Democrat. It was edited by William Jay

Whipple, who afterward went to Winona and published the Winona Democrat. In 1869 the paper again came into the possession of D. McBride, who associated with him in the business his son, W. McBride. They rechristened the paper Sparta Herald, and from that time to the present it has been sturdily Republican in politics. In 1884, after the death of D. McBride, the newspaper property passed into the hands of his two sons, who have published it under the name of McBride Brothers, and it is still so published, although owned by W. McBride. The paper is an eight-column folio, printed all at home.

So far as can be learned the first effort to establish a Democratic newspaper in Monroe county was in 1859, when the Sparta Democrat was started by two men, Richard M. Copeland and George Babcock. The publication of this paper was discontinued after about six months.

Another attempt at a Democratic paper in Sparta was made in 1863 by two brothers, Henry and Harrison Hayden, who had been previously employed by the Herald. It was published only a few months, the Haydens having some disagreement with their Democratic backers, and was discontinued, the Haydens moving away.

SPARTA EAGLE.

The Sparta Eagle was a second Republican paper started at Sparta in 1860, as the result of dissensions among Republican politicians in the county. William H. Farnham and Luther B. Noyes were the publishers one year, after which the latter retired and the paper was continued by Mr. Farnham until 1868. In that year he sold it to George Redway, who came from Ohio, and subsequently his brother, R. E. Redway, had it for a time. After this the paper frequently changed hands. D. B. Priest, Carson Graham and William Nelson, all of Viroqua, were connected with it between 1869 and 1871. In the latter year it was owned for a time by W. R. Finch, afterward editor of the LaCrosse Republican-Leader. He sold it to R. C. Bierce, of Viroqua, and Henry Rising, a son of the editor of Monroe county's first paper, the Citizen. In the fall of 1871 the paper was sold to D. W. C. Wilson and Theodore F. Hollister. The following year Mr. Wilson withdrew and the Eagle soon after died.

MONROE COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

Soon after the suspension of the Sparta Eagle the outfit was bought by D. W. C. Wilson, who in 1873 started the Monroe

County Republican, a Democratic paper. He published it until 1879, when it was consolidated with the Monroe County Democrat, a paper moved from Tomah by Brown and Foster. Mr. Wilson retired from the business and Messrs. Brown and Foster continued the paper under the name of the Monroe County Republican. In August, 1879, Mr. Foster's connection with the paper ceased and Mr. Brown changed the name to the Monroe County Democrat. In October, 1883, Guy Whitney, of Portage, took charge of the paper and the next February B. W. Perry became associated with him in it. About three months later Mr. Perry became proprietor and in January, 1885, he changed the name to Democrat-Enterprise.

After disposing of the Democrat F. A. Brown started a Republican paper, the Sparta News. He had been publishing it nearly a year when, on the 16th of August, 1885, the Sparta Democrat was burned out in the Ida House fire. The remnant of the outfit was bought by B. E. McCoy, of Sparta, who also bought the Sparta News, and combining the two began the publication of the Sparta Democrat, changing the name soon after to Monroe County Democrat. Mr. McCoy published the paper almost ten years, selling it in September, 1895, to D. C. Streeter, of Sparta. Later S. E. Streeter became associated with his brother in the business under the name of Streeter Brothers. In October, 1897, it was leased to D. W. Cheney and Clark S. McCoy; was run by them for a year. At the conclusion of the lease D. C. Streeter again became publisher and S. E. Streeter editor. These brothers became involved in some litigation, the paper going into the hands of a receiver for a time. D. C. Streeter being successful in the litigation again became proprietor, and published the paper with C. S. McCoy as editor until December 19, 1903, when the plant was sold to G. S. Ellicott. The following fall he sold to J. P. Rice and W. C. Hawkins. October 1, 1905, Mr. Hawkins disposed of his interest to George Esch, who, with Mr. Rice, conducted the paper until November 15, 1907, when Esch disposed of his interest to W. N. Wells, and the Democrat has been conducted by Rice & Wells up to the present, Mr. Wells being editor and manager.

WISCONSIN GREENBACK.

Among the papers published in the county for a short time was the Wisconsin Greenback, which flourished during the Cooper campaign. It was started in June, 1876, by Lamborn and Needham. Mr. Needham soon retired and the paper was con-

tinued by Dr. J. Lamborn and his son, Arthur B. It became the organ of the Greenback party in the state and was removed to Milwaukee in 1877, but afterward returned to Sparta and was published for a short time.

SPARTA TRIBUNE.

The Sparta Tribune was a paper started in 1882 by H. E. Kelly and had a brief existence. It was the organ of the so-called Independent Republicans, who formed a coalition with the Democrats and carried the county in the fall election. Mr. Kelly started another paper called the Independent in July, 1890. He sold it in January, 1894, to L. S. Humphrey, of Madison. The next July it was discontinued, the outfit being sold to McBride Brothers.

TOMAH CHIEF.

The pioneer newspaper of Tomah was the Tomah Chief. It was published as early as 1859 when Tomah was only a small settlement, and there was not adequate support for a newspaper. It was a small sheet and was published about a year.

TOMAH JOURNAL.

The establishment of a permanent newspaper in Tomah dates from the year 1867. In July of that year the Tomah Journal was started, and from that time to the present the name has not been changed. It has been published continuously longer than any other paper in the county.

The Journal was started by James A. and Charles D. Wells and for about eight years was published by one or both of these brothers, with several changes of firm name. In 1875, C. D. Wells' connection with the paper ceased, and in April, 1876, he started a Democratic paper in Tomah called the Tomah Signal. It was published less than a year. J. A. Wells continued the publication of the Journal until in January, 1884, when he sold it to Kibbe & Vincent. At that time Mr. Fred Kibbe was publishing a small paper called the Star, which was then merged with the Journal. During the year the Journal was leased to Mr. S. L. Chase, and in January, 1885, it was sold to L. B. Squier and J. D. Button, who published it for three years. At that time Mr. Squier bought out his partner's interest and has conducted the paper to the present time. The Journal is a six column quarto, four pages home print. It has been Republican in politics

throughout its entire history. The office is well equipped, with its own power plant.

About the year 1867 a paper called the Tomah Democrat was started by a Mr. Averill, but it was published only six months. The next attempt to establish a Democratic paper in Tomah was made by C. D. Wells in 1876, and has already been mentioned. In January, 1878, F. A. Brown and George A. Foster began the publication of the Monroe County Democrat at Tomah. About a year later they removed the office to Sparta and the paper was consolidated with the Monroe County Republican.

TOMAH MONITOR-HERALD.

The next Democratic paper in Tomah was called the Badger State Monitor, was started July 1, 1880, by Jay R. Hinckley. He published this paper for eight years, during part of which time he also published the Juneau County Argus at New Lisbon and the Herald at Portage. In 1888 he sold the Monitor to J. A. Wells, a former editor of the Tomah Journal; later he took into partnership his son, C. J. Wells; they purchased the Tomah Herald in 1904, combining it with the Monitor under its present name.

The Tomah Herald was started in 1894 by Jay R. Hinckley and successively owned by Briggs Brothers, George F. Grassie and Mr. Lee, by whom it was sold to J. A. and C. J. Wells.

The Monitor-Herald is a weekly newspaper of eight pages, seven columns to the page, published Fridays, is Republican in politics. The office is equipped with a modern outfit, the largest two revolution press in the county at the present time, a linotype, three job presses, using electric power.

HERALD-ADVERTISER.

In February, 1891, Mr. Hinckley having purchased the Portage Advertiser, combined it with his Portage Herald and again located in Tomah, publishing his paper under the name Herald-Advertiser. In January, 1894, he moved his paper to Sparta, where he published it for a few years, then turned it into a daily, which was sold to a local company, which conducted it for about a year, finally disposing of the plant to L. D. Merrill; he moved the outfit to the Teasdale building, discontinued the daily and resumed the weekly publication. Subsequently, the plant was sold to Dorrington and Ross, Dorrington retiring from the firm shortly after. The paper had a precarious existence

and finally financial difficulties threw it into bankruptcy and it was sold by the trustee, again passing into the hands of L. D. Merrill. Early in 1910 he sold it to a company formed of local men, who changed the name to the Monroe County Republican. It was published under that name up to about October 1, 1911, when publication was finally discontinued, the plant sold to Merlin Hull of Black River Falls and moved to that city.

TOMAH ENTERPRISE.

The Tomah Enterprise was started in the spring of 1885 by E. A. Alderman and Son, and was discontinued in July, 1887. Later the plant was removed to Montana. The Enterprise was Republican in politics.

NEWSPAPERS OF CASHTON.

In December, 1893, J. A. Haines came to Cashton from Bangor and founded the first newspaper, which he named The Star. Not having an outfit of his own, he had the sheet printed at Sparta. After continuing the publication for about a year, he sold what he had to his son, Frank, who kept the paper running until the spring of 1895, when he sold to E. H. Briggs, who came here with an outfit from Shell Lake, Wis. Briggs changed the name of the paper from The Star to The Enterprise. Briggs sold the plant to E. H. Brown and J. W. Haughton in August, 1895. These gentlemen came here from Viroqua and conducted the business until the following July, 1896, when they moved the plant to Brooklyn, Wis. For a few weeks Cashton was without a paper, but the people induced Frank Haines to try again and he, in company with Frank Rudolph, started the Record. Things went badly with them and they were forced to sell the following summer to James McManamy. McManamy edited the paper until the winter of 1898, when a fire destroyed the building and most of the outfit. McManamy then sold what was left to O. G. Briggs of Viroqua. He conducted the business until the fall of 1905, when E. H. Brown of Viroqua, the present owner, purchased the plant and also that of the Independent, which was started by J. R. Hinkley in the summer of 1903. Mr. Hinkley sold his interest in the paper to J. A. Norris and Norris to E. H. Brown. During the year 1900 Frank Haines started a paper here called the Sun, but its life was short. He afterward started a job office, but that also soon gave up the ghost.

NORWALK SENTINEL.

This paper was started in January, 1888, and was discontinued six months later. The Norwalk Times was started just after the Sentinel ceased publication and was published for about six months by H. C. McGary; the paper being printed at Sparta.

NORWALK STAR.

Founded in October, 1903, by O. W. Sprecher, who conducted it until the summer of 1907, when it was purchased by W. J. Robinson, and the ensuing fall was purchased by E. G. Hesselgrave, the present owner and proprietor. This paper started under discouraging circumstances, but has steadily grown in circulation and advertising patronage until at the present time it stands second to any paper in the county in respect to legitimate home patronage. Independent in politics and stands for the best interests of Norwalk, Monroe county, and state of Wisconsin.

WILTON HERALD.

The Wilton Herald was started about the beginning of the year 1894 by a man named Bugbee, who set the type in the Wilton office and printed the paper at Reedsburg. He was soon succeeded by Thompson & Brown, and later C. H. Brown became the sole owner, he in turn sold the paper to J. E. Gruber in February, 1900, who has been the proprietor and editor ever since.

KENDALL KEYSTONE.

The first issue of the Kendall Keystone was published January 28, 1904, by Clarence S. Dodge, who came to the village from White Rock, S. D. It was started as an eight page five column paper and its publication was continued by Mr. Dodge until July 29, 1905, when it was purchased by the present publisher, Alex R. McCleneghan. He soon enlarged the paper to a six column eight pages, the standard county paper size. In politics the Keystone is Independent Republican; the paper has prospered from the beginning and now has a subscription list of about eight hundred and good advertising patronage. The paper is ably edited and has succeeded in bringing Kendall to the attention of the outside world, which is appreciated by the people of that bustling village.

WARRENS INDEX.

The Warrens Index was started at Warrens, Wis., October 2, 1896, with W. G. Evans, formerly of Missouri, as editor. The newspaper outfit was added to a job printing office, which had been doing business for a few years, owned by F. R. Barber. The paper was published by Mr. Evans until May, 1908, when he disposed of his interest to I. S. Dunn, of Elroy. Mr. Dunn severed his connection with the paper the following year, but its publication was continued by the Index Printing Co. under different editors for several years. In September, 1910, the paper was discontinued, the subscription list and part of the plant being sold to the Tomah Journal.

VALLEY ADVOCATE.

The Wisconsin Valley Advocate was started at Valley Junction on March 3, 1898, by E. T. Hale, of Elroy. After being run for a time as a local paper, it passed into the hands of the Twentieth Century Co., with W. C. Brawley, of Mauston, as editor. It was enlarged and became chiefly an agricultural paper, devoted to the development of the lands in that section of the county. Mr. Brawley was succeeded by W. H. Price as editor, who conducted the paper until November, 1907. At that time it was discontinued, the subscription list being disposed of to the Tomah Journal and the plant was sold to other parties.

TOMAH HERALD.

The Tomah Herald was started as a daily newspaper in the year 1894 by J. R. Hinckley and Son, who were also publishing a daily paper in Sparta at that time. After a short time it was purchased by Briggs Bros., who changed it to a weekly paper. In about a year they sold it to George Grassie, of Milwaukee, who afterward disposed of it to R. G. Lee. In 1904 Mr. Lee moved the press and part of the plant to Tomahawk, selling the subscription list and part of the material to Wells and Son of the Tomah Monitor, who then changed the name of their paper to Monitor-Herald.

CHAPTER XI.

MONROE COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR.

BY WILLIAM H. BLYTON.

When the news was received of the fall of Fort Sumter the general feeling of indignation felt by the North did not escape the citizens of this young, but loyal county, and at no place in the United States was the president's call for troops more promptly responded to. Six full companies of volunteer soldiers were organized and a part of the seventh furnished by this county, together with a large number of men in different companies in several of the regiments. In all, there were 927 men who went from Monroe county during the war, and of this number 141 gave up their lives in the service of their country.

This is a remarkable record; Monroe county did its full share and a little more, as will readily be seen when the fact is remembered that in the census report for 1860 the entire population of the county, men, women and children, numbered about 8,407 souls, and the male population between the ages of fifteen and fifty was only 2,220, together with the further fact that the county was only seven years of age, having been organized March 21, 1854; and that when war was declared the assessed valuation of the entire property of the county, real and personal, was but $1,477,745.

In view of the foregoing, it seems that it may be said that Monroe county did more than her full share and made for herself during the War of '61 a record that any and all of her citizens may refer to with pride. We feel that we are justified in boasting of our volunteer soldiers, who were citizens before they became soldiers.

The population of the county now is 28,881, as against 8,407 in 1860, and the assessed valuation of our real and personal property is $25,921,265, as against $1,477,745 in 1860, which is suggestive of the truth of the oft repeated saying that we live in a progressive age, and as a new generation stands in our places, let them be taught that the Union soldier has done much

in War and in Peace. That in every avenue of life soldiers are numbered still by the thousands, and the lessons of patriotism should not be lost upon our children or our children's children, and they should be made to feel that the blessing enjoyed in a free country depend upon the loyalty, patriotism, and intelligence of its people.

The history of the troops which went from this county into the war is necessarily the history of the various regiments in which its citizens enlisted; in order to fully record the great service which was rendered in that struggle by our own people, the history of some of the regiments in which companies enlisted from this county is given in this chapter; it is a remarkable record, the record of hardships, bravery and good American patriotism under all circumstances, and one which has formed no small part of the remarkable history of Wisconsin troops during the Rebellion. There were several regiments in which nearly whole companies came from Monroe county, notably Company A, Third Cavalry, which was almost entirely from this county; Company I, Fourth Cavalry, and a large number in Company F, Fourth Cavalry; some twenty-five or six in the First Battery, Light Artillery; quite a number enlisted in the Sixth Infantry in various companies; Company C of the Eighteenth Infantry; Company C of the Nineteenth Infantry, a large number in Company D of the same regiment; Company D of the Twenty-fifth Regiment of Infantry, also a large number of Company F; Company C, Twenty-sixth Infantry; Company K, Forty-third Infantry; Company I, Forty-eighth Infantry; Company B, Fiftieth Infantry, and Company A, Fifty-first Infantry.

THE SIXTH INFANTRY.

The Sixth Regiment was organized at Camp Randall in June, 1861, and mustered into the United States service July 13th; left the state July 27th, reaching Washington August 8th. This regiment, in connection with the Second Wisconsin, Fifth Wisconsin and Nineteenth Indiana, composed Gen. Rufus King's First Brigade and throughout the war the Second, Sixth and Seventh Wisconsin Regiments served in the same organization, and became known the world over as "The Iron Brigade," and their services throughout that struggle were rendered as brigade and not as regiments.

These three Wisconsin regiments had absolute confidence in one another; the men to a great extent were personally acquainted; their campaigns extended over a comparatively small

section of the country; they became familiar with the army against which they were called upon to battle. During the four years they were in close proximity to the powerful army led by the most brilliant officers of the Confederacy; they knew that a march of a day or two in its direction meant skirmishing, if not a battle. It was necessary throughout these years in which history was made that men of this brigade be ready for battle all of the time.

Another circumstance is found in the fact that from the first to the last, the brigade was commanded by a soldier who knew how to command and who knew how to get the best possible work from his men. General King was a graduate of West Point. A thorough disciplinarian, and his work during the few months in which he had command was invaluable in preparing the brigade for its future services.

He was succeeded by Gen. John Gibbons in May, 1862, who continued the work of making his brigade regular army soldiers, and they were regulars in fact as well as in name; not only were the men well drilled and well instructed, but the field and line officers were made efficient, so that when General Gibbon was placed in the command of a division after the battle of Antietam, all of the surviving colonels of the brigade were competent to take his place. Meredith of the Nineteenth Indiana and Cutler of the Sixth Wisconsin were made brigadiers, and had experience as commanders of the brigade. They followed as closely as they could in the footsteps of Gibbon. Then came Colonel Robinson, of the Seventh Wisconsin, and then Colonel Bragg, of the Sixth. Colonel Bragg had been a remarkably close student of Gibbon's methods and soon after assuming the command he was made a brigadier general. When he left the command in February, 1865, an officer who had left Wisconsin as a first lieutenant and had reached the rank of colonel of the Sixth Wisconsin, succeeded him, and became a brigadier general by brevet because of his splendid management in the closing campaign of the war, this was Gen. John A. Kellogg.

Aside from the battles of the Army of the Potomac in the spring and summer of 1862 on the Potomac, this brigade missed none of the great and small battles of the Army of the Potomac. Its opportunities for winning credit and thinning its ranks were greater than were offered to any other Wisconsin regiments sent to the war, and the statement is here emphasized that any other four Wisconsin regiments similarly situated, similarly commanded, kept together throughout the war and given the

same opportunity to win distinction would, without any kind of doubt, have won the same rank and been given the same credit.

After spending the winter of 1861-2 on Arlington Heights, the brigade broke camp March 10, 1862, joined in the march of McClellan's great army on Centerville and Manassas.

The first great battle in which the brigade played a prominent part was in Gainsville, Va., August 28, 1862; it was the beginning of a series of battles in the vicinity of Bull Run battle field of the year before; here Jackson's corps had destroyed millions of dollars worth of property at Manassas and had turned back to join the balance of Lee's army. Gibbon's brigade consisted of the four regiments named and Battery B; for hours faced and fought Stonewall Jackson's army corps of nearly thirty-six regiments. The only help it had for a portion of the time being the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania and the Seventy-sixth New York on the right of the line. The brigade entered the engagement with 2,200 men and its loss, killed and wounded, was 800, but in that battle it won a name for good soldiership.

The next engagement was South Mountain, Md., September 14; in this battle the brigade charged upon the high mountain in the face of a much larger force and won the signal victory. In this battle its conduct was witnessed by the corps commander, Gen. Joseph Hooker, and Gen. George B. McClellan, commander of the Army of the Potomac, and it was in this battle that it was given the name of the "Iron Brigade." General McClellan asked, "Whose troops are these?" As he saw the brigade charge upon the mountain, when told by General Hooker that it was Gibbon's western brigade, he remarked, "They are men of iron," as the story goes. Within a few days Cincinnati papers were received in which the western men were spoken of as the "Iron Brigade." There are different stories as to how the brigade received its name, but General Bragg, who grew up with the organization, said that in his belief it was the war correspondents and he thought it was a correspondent of a Cincinnati paper who gave the command the name it has held ever since.

At the first battle of Fredericksburg, in December, 1862, when the brigade was in Franklin's grand division, on the left, and while it was under fire two days and lost considerable number of men, it was not the disastrous kind of an encounter it had experienced in previous battles.

It participated in Burnside's famous Mud March in 1862 on the Potomac, when it returned to its camps at Bell Plain until

Hooker's campaign began in the last week of April, 1863, when it made its remarkable charge in pontoon boats across the Rappahannock river at Fitzhugh Crossing, charged the heights on the opposite side of the river, drove the enemy, took possession, fortified and held the place until General Hooker's men had crossed the river and got on the left flank of Lee's army, when the brigade recrossed the river and marched to join the main army at Chancellorsville, where it participated in the fight and joined in another retreat on the safe side of the Rappahannock. A short time later it participated in the three bloody days of the battle of Gettysburg, beginning July 1, 1862. At this time it was the First Brigade, First Division, First Army Corps, Gen. Solomon Meredith being in command. It is claimed by some authority that the Wisconsin brigade and Pennsylvania infantry opened fire in that battle at about the same time.

The authorities of both states claim that their soldiers were the first to begin the infantry fighting, but the fact is that they belonged to the same division and marched into the fight at the same time. In the first day's fight the brigade's loss was very great in officers and men, and lost more than one-third of its troops in killed and wounded. During the balance of the two days' battle it was on Culp's Hill, behind strong entrenchments. It was called into action several times and saw the never-to-be-forgotten charge made by the Confederates under Gen. George E. Pickett.

After Meade's fruitless campaign in November, 1863, the brigade returned to its quarters with the rest of the corps at Culpeper Court House, and on the 1st of January the Sixth and Seventh regiments re-enlisted for three years more or during the war, and were given thirty days' furlough, returning to Wisconsin as regiments. Their reception by the people of the state constituted one of the great events in the lives of the young soldiers. At the end of the thirty days the two regiments returned to the brigade and in May, 1864, it, with the rest of the army, plunged into the Wilderness campaign on May 5, 1864, and they were not out of the hearing of hostile guns until the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox, April 9, 1865. It was in the forefront in the two days' battle of the Wilderness proper, at Laurel's Hill, Spottsylvania, Bethesda Church, in North Anna, Cold Harbor, the Siege of Petersburg, the three days' battle of Weldon railroad beginning August 18th, and ending on the 21st; the battles of Hatcher's Run, Gravely Run,

Five Forks and Appomattox. The brigade took its place in the grand review in Washington after the war, and two months later returned to the state and was mustered out of the service.

THE EIGHTEENTH INFANTRY.

The Eighteenth Infantry was ordered to Camp Sigel, Milwaukee, January 7, 1862. It completed its organization and was mustered into the service and left the state about the last of March, 1862, reaching Pittsburg Landing April 5, and went into the Battle of Shiloh the next day. It was surprised by the Confederates early in the morning of April 6th, and, although it was poorly drilled and wholly unprepared for service, yet within a week it was forced into one of the greatest battles of the war and took up the work of fighting, and made a creditable record, losing many valuable officers, including the colonel and a large number of men. Col. S. H. Alban was killed early in the engagement; Lieut. Col. S. W. Beall, who had been lieutenant governor of Wisconsin, was severely wounded, and Maj. J. W. Crain was killed. In this battle, the Eighteenth lost twenty-five killed and ninety-one wounded. In the following October it was in the battle of Corinth, again losing heavily in killed and wounded, but adding greatly to its reputation as a fighting regiment. Capt. Gabrial Bouck, of the Second Wisconsin, was made colonel to succeed Colonel Alban, killed at Shiloh. The Eighteenth was one of Wisconsin's regiments at the battle and siege of Vicksburg. The regiment reached Chattanooga in time to take part in the battle of Mission Ridge, November 25, 1863, and from there went to Huntsville, where it remained on guard and outpost duty until May, 1864. Most of its duty from that time to the end of the war consisted of important guard and outpost duty, aside from the part it took in the Confederate attack on Altoona Pass. There were stored at this pass an immense quantity of army supplies. The Confederate army needed these supplies and they attacked with great force and vigor, but the small force of Union troops stationed there fought as soldiers are seldom called upon to fight. Here the Eighteenth won for itself great praise and great distinction. It was in this battle that General Sherman signaled to General Corse from Kenesaw Mountain to hold the position, for he was coming. From this dispatch came that wonderful old song, "Hold the Fort, for I am Coming." General Corse had received, previous to this message, several wounds and signaled back to Sherman, "I have lost an ear, part of a cheek and am wounded in one arm,

but I will hold the fort until Hades freezes over." It was one of the sharpest battles of that kind fought during the war, and to this day many wonder how that small force could check and drive back a whole division of Confederates.

While the Eighteenth did not march with Sherman to the sea, it joined Sherman's army by traveling on boats and railroads, reaching it the last of March, and was with him until Raleigh, the capital of North Carolina, surrendered, soon after which Johnston and his army laid down their arms. The Eighteenth had three colonels, J. S. Alban, Gabrial Bouck and Charles H. Jackson.

THE NINETEENTH INFANTRY.

The Nineteenth was organized at Camp Utley, Racine, but in April, 1862, was ordered to Camp Randall to guard prisoners taken at Shiloh. Early in June of that year the regiment proceeded to Virginia.

This regiment was given a larger amount of our post and guard duty than most of the regiments, though it was in all ways an excellent command, and both officers and men were anxious for more service; but this important duty had to be placed in good hands and this regiment was thoroughly to be depended upon, and did work in a manner to bring praise from its superior officers.

It was stationed at Norfolk for some time and again was stationed at Suffolk, Va. It was engaged in several battles in front of Richmond and Petersburg, and lost in killed twenty-nine, died of wounds twelve, died of disease 107. Horace R. Sanders, of Racine, was the first colonel, and S. K. Voughan the second colonel. The regiment had only these two colonels. It was mustered out of the service August 9, 1865.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized at LaCrosse, Wis., in September, 1862, and as soon as it was mustered into the service was sent to Minnesota to aid in the Indian War prevailing there at that time. It returned to Madison in January, 1863, and left for Kentucky February 17th of the same year. It was commanded by a Monroe county man, Col. Milton Montgomery, and the history of this regiment is of peculiar interest inasmuch as nearly one whole company, D, and a great part of another, F, were composed of Monroe county citizens.

The Twenty-fifth had quite an experience in Minnesota in the Indian campaign, after which, as has been stated, it returned to Madison and was sent south in 1863, and became a part of the Sixteenth Army Corps and joined Grant's army at Vicksburg early in June, remaining there until after the surrender and performing well every duty assigned to it. It was one of the regiments which participated in this memorable march of General Sherman from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and from there to the sea: It saw hard service throughout this campaign, and the regiment was depended upon, on numerous occasions, for very important duty, and was frequently engaged in severe battles. While its losses in killed and wounded were not as great as many of the regiments, it lost from disease a larger number than any other regiment from the state. The records of Company D showing a large percentage of Monroe county men who died of disease. This is the regiment of which Jeremiah M. Rusk was lieutenant colonel. He went out with it as major, became lieutenant colonel, and as such commanded it in many of its campaigns and battles, and was promoted to brevet brigadier and for some time commanded the brigade. General Rusk told this story on himself: While going through North Carolina in command of a brigade his troops went in the pine forests to camp and when, two days later, it broke camp, nearly every man, because of the pitch pine smoke, was nearly as dark skinned as the colored people. While General Rusk was riding at the head of his brigade, his face nearly as black as a crow's wing, he heard some southern people by the roadside say: "For Gaud sake, if the Yankees haven't been obliged to put niggers in command of their brigades." Colonel Montgomery of this regiment lost an arm in action, and for gallant and meritorious conduct was made a brigadier general by brevet. The Twenty-fifth's losses in killed and wounded was forty-two, and of its number 376 died of disease. It was one of Wisconsin's famous regiments, which left a glorious record of its services. It was mustered out on June 7, 1865.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.

The Thirty-sixth regiment was organized under the president's first call in 1864, and was the first to respond. It left Madison May 10, 1864, and joined the Army of the Potomac at Spottsylvania, Va., a week later. It went directly into the line of battle when it reached that place, and was soon taken into the thick of the fight and acquitted itself as if its soldiers had been

veterans. From that time until the end of the war the Thirty-sixth regiment was given the hardest service, and was ordered into all of the battles recorded up to and including Appomattox.

It had for its colonel, Frank A. Haskell, who left the state in 1861 as adjutant of the Sixth Wisconsin, and was General Gibbon's adjutant general. At the battle of Gettysburg, while serving on General Gibbon's staff as a captain, command of the entire army corps devolved upon him for a brief space of time. Generals Hancock, Gibbon and Webb had been wounded and Haskell assumed the responsibility of directing the corps in the engagement. At the battle of Cold Harbor, where his regiment did great execution and met with distressing losses, Colonel Haskell, while at the head of his command, standing on the breast work and as he was about to give a command to charge, was instantly killed. Two days before that he had been recommended for promotion to brigadier general. He was, without doubt, one of the most soldierly and manly men from this state. Though its services extended for only a year, the losses of this regiment were much greater than two-thirds of the three years' regiments.

It had four different colonels, Haskell, who was killed; Col. John A. Savage was mortally wounded, and Col. Harvey M. Brown was erroneously reported killed at Petersburg. Col. Clement E. Warner lost an arm, and a number of captains and lieutenants were killed. More than half of the thousand men that Colonel Haskel hurried to the front early in 1864 were killed or wounded. The regiment lost in one year seventy-nine killed, forty-seven died of wounds, and 168 died of disease. It is not surprising that the survivors of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin are proud to have been of such a regiment.

THE FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

This regiment was recruited and organized under the direction of Col. Amasa Cobb, formerly of the Fifth Wisconsin. It left Milwaukee for the field on the 9th of October, 1864, under orders to report at Nashville, Tenn., to General Sherman. From Nashville they moved by rail and encamped on the 15th of October at Johnsonville, the terminus of the military railroad connected with Nashville and situated 110 miles from Paducah, on the Tennessee river. Here Colonel Cobb was appointed post commander and Lieutenant Colonel Paine assumed command of the regiment. This important post, at which was collected immense quantities of stores, was then menaced by the approach

of rebel forces under General Hood, and from the 4th to the 6th of November the regiment was exposed to the fire of the rebel guns, planted on the opposite bank of the Tennessee, losing one man killed and one wounded.

The Forty-third left Johnsonville on the morning of the 30th of November, and marched by way of Waverly through an unbroken wilderness and arrived on the 4th of December at Clarksville, on the Cumberland river. Embarking at Clarksville on the 28th they reached Nashville at 10 in the evening. They landed the next morning and remained in the city awaiting transportation until the evening of the 21st of January, 1865, when they left Nashville by rail and arrived at Dechard, Tenn., where six companies of the regiment went to camp and four companies, under command of Major Brightman, being detached to guard the Elk river brigade.

The regiment was employed at that station in post and guard duty on the line of the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad until the beginning of June, when it was moved to Nashville, at which place it was mustered out of the service June 24, 1865, arriving soon after in Milwaukee, where they were paid and disbanded.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Was organized at Milwaukee during the months of February and March, 1865. Eight companies of the regiment under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Shears left Milwaukee on the 2nd of March under orders to report at Benton Barracks, Missouri, at which place it received orders on the 28th of March to proceed to Paola, Kan. Upon its arrival there the companies were sent in different directions to detached duty, and on the 19th of July Colonel Pearsall was assigned to the command of all the troops in and west of Neosho Valley, Kan., including the station on Osage Mission, with headquarters at Humboldt, Kan. Orders were received on the 10th of August for the regiment to proceed to Lawrence, but on account of heavy rains the march was delayed until the 19th, arriving at Lawrence, Kan., on September 5th. Upon its arrival at Lawrence the regiment was again assigned on detached service, companies being sent to occupy different places. Companies B, D, F and I, were mustered out at Leavenworth, Kan., on the 11th of February, 1866, and reached Madison on the 23rd. The balance of the companies were mustered out on the 24th of March, 1866, and arrived at Madison on the 28th, where they were paid and disbanded.

THE FIFTIETH REGIMENT.

The Fiftieth Wisconsin was organized under the supervision of John G. Clark, of Lancaster; left Madison by companies the latter part of March and the beginning of April, 1865, and on arriving at St. Louis, Mo., the companies were assigned to Benton Barracks. On the 11th of October, Colonel Clark assumed command of the post at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where the regiment was stationed until the expiration of its term of service. Company E was ordered to report at Madison, Wis., where it was mustered out and discharged on the 19th of April, 1866. The balance of the regiment remained in garrison at Fort Rice until the 31st of May, 1866, when Companies A, B, C and D, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel McDermott set out for home, reaching Madison, Wis., on the 12th of May, 1866. Companies F, G, H, I and K, under the command of Colonel Clark, left Fort Rice on the 3rd of June and arrived at Madison on the 14th of June, and here the whole army was immediately mustered out, paid and disbanded.

THE FIFTY-FIRST REGIMENT.

Six companies of this regiment were recruited under Col. Leonard Martin and were organized at Camp Washburn, Milwaukee, during the months of February, March, April and May, 1865, and were sent to Benton Barracks, Mo., the last company being organized on the 29th of April, in that year. The four junior companies not having left the state, they were mustered out and discharged at Milwaukee on the 6th of May under general orders from the War Department for the reduction of the army. On the 7th of April Company B was placed on temporary duty at St. Louis, and on the 8th of May Companies A, C, E and F were ordered to Warrensburg, Mo. These companies were then stationed along the line of the Pacific railroad, and were occupied in guarding the construction of this road from Holden to Pleasant Hill. Company B reached the regiment on the 21st of June. In accordance with the special orders from the War Department June 10, 1865, the Fifty-third Wisconsin, consisting of four companies, was consolidated with the Fifty-first regiment and was mustered out at Madison in companies, the last company being disbanded on the 30th of August, 1865.

THIRD CAVALRY.

This regiment was fully organized, and the colonel and field officers mustered into the United States service on the 28th of

January, 1862. Col. William A. Barstow took command and its headquarters were at Camp Barstow, Janesville.

On the 26th day of March, 1862, the regiment left the state under orders to report at St. Louis. They took the train for Chicago and had arrived within three miles of that city when they met with a terrible disaster. The cars were running rapidly and several of them were thrown from the track. Twelve men were instantly killed, and twenty-eight wounded. On the morning of the 27th they arrived in Chicago and took the cars for St. Louis, where they arrived the 28th, and marched to the fair grounds, near Benton Barracks. May 22nd, 1862, they took three steamers up the Missouri for Leavenworth, Kan., arriving May 27th. They had previously drawn Merrill's carbines at St. Louis and sabres at Janesville. They camped on the blue grass near Fort Leavenworth, and there drew their horses and equipments, and in the city their revolvers. Colonel Barstow was appointed provost marshal of Kansas, and in the beginning of June the regiment was stationed, by detachments, in different parts of the state, extending from the Nebraska line on the north to Fort Scott on the south. The nature of the service was chiefly to hunt up and expel the jayhawkers and bushwhackers of that region. Companies C, F, I and M were sent, June 12th, from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Scott, where they arrived on the 17th. This march is worthy of record, as it was accomplished in five days without the loss of a man or horse, the distance being 130 miles. Fort Scott was now the outpost of the forces, and Major Henning took command of the post. Company I was sent to occupy Carthage, Mo., sixty-five miles from Fort Scott, Captain Conkey in command.

Company C was sent to Trading Post, thirty-five miles north of Fort Scott, on the border. Bands of rebels were prowling about the territory. Captain Conkey followed one party, with a small force, from Carthage, and finding himself in danger, charged through their camp of 2,000 one morning before daylight and escaped. Colonel Barstow unexpectedly met the same band at Montevallo, and routing them, fell back to Fort Scott, where an attack was expected. But General Salomon's arrival, on his return from the Indian country, made the post secure. General Blunt arriving, Companies F and I, Lieutenant Willets in command, joined an expedition in pursuit of the enemy. At Taberville they had an engagement with him, and Company I being in front, showed so much bravery that Colonel Cloud commended them in his official report. They took part also

in the action at Coon Creek where 600 loyalists routed 1,500 rebels.

Early in September, Companies I and M were substituted, at Fort Scott, for C and F, Major Henning still commanding. They were constantly engaged in scouting expeditions, and as escorts for trains to General Blunt's army in southwest Missouri, until January, 1863, when Companies C and G were added to the command, and remained till July, at which date Company G was ordered to report to Lieutenant-Colonel White, who then had command of the regiment.

Meanwhile the first and third battalions, under Major Schroeling, were engaged in such varied movements as were common to a state of border warfare. In June, 1862, a disposition was made of them at different points, thus: Company D was sent to Atchison, G to Shawnee, and L to Aubrey; Companies B and H guarded Fort Leavenworth; at Leavenworth City, A, E and K performed provost duty besides scouting in the border counties of Missouri. The infamous Quantrell, with his guerillas, was often found and fought by them.

September 13 six companies went to Indian Creek, in southwest Missouri, and joined the command of General Salomon. In his brigade they took part in the battle of Cane Hill, the last of November, and in that of Prairie Grove, December 7th, to be described hereafter. Subsequently they went to Cane Hill again, thence to Van Buren on a raid, driving out a Texas regiment and capturing several steamboats. During the winter of 1862-63 they were a part of the time at Elm Spring Mills, and Marmaduke being engaged in raiding through the country, they were continually on the alert to intercept and dislodge him. They were now in Arkansas and then in Missouri, on short marches and on long ones—at one time moving from Forsyth, Missouri, to Springfield, 256 miles, in four days, without taking forage or rations. June 22nd they were separated from the rest of the command and marched to Fort Scott, camping there July 5th, the day after the fall of Vicksburg.

The other companies of the regiments B, C, H, I and M, in the preceding month of May, under the command of Captain Stout, marched to Fort Blunt, in the Cherokee Nation, as an escort for the post supply train. A heavy force of some 1,500 Texans and Indians under the rebel general, Cooper, attacked them on the 30th of May, when they were only four miles from the fort. The enemy was repulsed, the national troops losing five men killed and wounded. June 4th they again set out from

Fort Blunt as escort to the returning train, and on the 20th turned about as escort to a large train of supplies to the fort. At Cabin Creek, on the 27th, the rebel General Cooper again attacked them with a much superior force. The enemy, however, were driven fifty miles across the Verdigris river. Reaching Fort Blunt they were attached to the Third brigade, army of the frontier. July 16th they marched south, under the lead of General Blunt. The next day they had a battle at Honey Springs, where the rebels under Cooper and Standwaite lost many prisoners and their whole artillery. Afterward they crossed the Arkansas river and pursued the enemy, having some skirmishes, and on the 19th returned to Fort Blunt with the army.

The early border warfare led to the formation of several Indian regiments, composed in general of the arms-bearing refuges among the Indians that could be obtained for the service of the United States. The Third Wisconsin Cavalry had some connection with these regiments, particularly the Third, which was recruited on the frontier of Missouri and Kansas. Mr. E. H. Ely, of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, was first detailed for special service, and then ordered by General Blunt, November 15, 1862, to take command of Company G, Third Indian Regiment, as first lieutenant. The First Battalion was with this regiment in the battle of Honey Springs, or Elk Creek.

FOURTH CAVALRY.

This regiment was originally organized as the Fourth Regiment of infantry about the 6th of June, 1861, at Camp Utley, Racine. On the 15th day of July, 1861, they left the state under orders to report at Baltimore, Md., where they arrived on the 23rd. After detached duty, which separated the companies of the regiment, they were reunited on the 5th of August and went into camp thirty miles north of Washington. Here they remained engaged in drill until the 4th day of November, when the regiment took part in an expedition on the eastern shore of Virginia under General Lockwood, which accomplished no result. Upon its return the regiment was placed in barracks in the city of Baltimore, where it remained until February, 1862. It was ordered on board of transports at Newport News, Virginia, and sailed south to join the army of the Gulf, and arrived at Ship Island, Mississippi, on the 13th of March. There the regiment was assigned to the Second brigade of the Gulf department, Brig.-General Thomas Williams commanding. Here it remained in camp until the 16th of April, and on that day, with the Fourth

Wisconsin, Sixth Michigan and Twenty-first Indiana regiments, went on board the ship Great Republic, which was the next day towed by Jackson toward the Mississippi river and anchored off the southwest pass to await the action of the fleet which had gone up the river to attack Forts Jackson and St. Phillips. Here they witnessed in the distance that terrible bombardment whose lightnings and battle clouds filled the heavens as with a tempest.

The bombardment opened April 18th under Captain Farragut. The forts were damaged but before being captured it was decided to pass them and go on to New Orleans, which was done on the 24th, the chain boom obstruction over the river having first been passed and the rebel fleets silenced and the guns of the forts were partially silenced. The land forces were ordered to sail around by a more shallow passage through the Bay of Ronde and strike the river in the rear of the forts. The Fourth Wisconsin was transferred from the Colorado to the Great Republic and on the 26th started with other troops for Sable Island. The expedition was successful and the Fourth Wisconsin received high praise from Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, who was in command of that district. On the 29th the companies of the Fourth Wisconsin were assembled from the gunboats and in connection with the Thirty-first Massachusetts were the first troops to land in New Orleans. With colors flying, their feet keeping time to "Yankee Doodle" as they marched to the custom house and took forceable possession, the Fourth Wisconsin occupying principally the post office. Here it remained until the 8th of May, performing the duty of provost guard in the city. On that day six companies embarked on the transport Burton, steamed up the Mississippi river thirty-five miles and landed on the left bank. Just before daylight they started with part of the Sixth Michigan for the Jackson and Mississippi railroad after a difficult and dangerous march through cypress swamps and difficult roads and having a little brush with the outpost of the enemy. On the 18th they reached, in boats, the vicinity of Warrenton at 5:00 in the afternoon and tied up at that place in sight of the rebel works. After some skirmishing the regiment proceeded on the river to Baton Rouge, where it landed and remained until the 17th of June. On the 5th of June General William's order was issued directing the commanders to turn fugitive slaves out of their camps and keep them out. Colonel Paine refused to obey this order and was placed under arrest. Colonel Paine considered that by turning these fugitives out that he was violating the act of congress which provided an officer from employing

troops under his command to return fugitives from services or labor and that by turning them away from the protection of these troops he was violating that act. The regiment stood by the colonel and was highly indignant, and on the 17th of June it was so modified that he again assumed command and the regiment embarked on the second expedition to Vicksburg. At Grand Gulf they burned every building and in the night embarked for Vicksburg, which was reached on the 25th. Soon after the arrival at Vicksburg it was decided to dig a canal from the Mississippi river above the city, the neck of land opposite to the river below, and part of this work was then under the direction of Captain Bailey. Negroes were conscripted from all the plantations along the river for this work. It was continued up until July 14th, when, owing to the fearful loss of life from disease contracted in the low, wet ground, the work was abandoned on July 14th. On that same day Capt. John W. Lynn, of Company I, with twenty men, two from each company, crossed to the fleet above Vicksburg and went on board the gunboat "Tyler," and the next morning started up the Yazoo river to perform the duty of sharpshooters. When near Old River the rebel ram Arkansas was met and the Tyler turned about. A running fight followed on the Mississippi river in which the brave captain and five men were torn to pieces by a shell and six others wounded. The ram ran through Porter's fleet to Vicksburg. The Fourth Wisconsin was sent under the command of Colonel Paine to the point opposite the town to prevent the crossing of the rebels. While here they witnessed the bombardment of the city by the combined fleets of Farragut and Davis, which was a terrible scene. The regiment steamed down the river and landed at Baton Rouge on the 26th after the bombardment, the expedition having suffered much from disease, and on the 31st of July Colonel Paine, in obedience to orders, started for New Orleans to report arrest of General Butler. On the morning of August 5th an advance was made to meet the confederates under General Breckenridge, who was repulsed with great loss. In this battle General Williams was killed and Colonel Paine was summoned to New Orleans by General Butler and placed in command to return to Baton Rouge and burn the city to the ground. The next night at 12:00 o'clock Colonel Paine reached the city, found that the rebels had retreated and that the federal troops had changed their position and were waiting another attack. Colonel Paine held the city until the 17th of August, when he received information from General Butler that Baton Rouge would be again attacked on the

18th of August. The Colonel had also learned the same thing from his scouts and was prepared. All spare baggage was ordered on board the transport, signals were arranged for by day and night, all state prisoners were taken to the boats and sent down the river. On the 18th the enemy approached the works on the southeast but were easily repulsed by the gunboats. On the 19th the colonel posted notices requiring all residents to leave the city on the following day, and directed that the buildings should be burned on the 20th unless the order was rescinded by General Butler. Before daylight on the 20th an order was received, dated the 19th, from General Butler, rescinding the order to burn the city. The town was thus saved, for which the people of Louisiana may be forever grateful to the generous heart of Col. Halbert E. Paine, of the Fourth Wisconsin. On the 21st the city was evacuated. The regiment did some service at different points during September, October and November, and on the 19th of December returned to Baton Rouge, Major Boardman in command. The regiment afterwards participated in that famous siege of Fort Hudson and lost very heavily. It had been converted into a cavalry regiment in 1863, and as such it took rank with the best cavalry regiments in the service. Most of its service was in Missouri, Louisiana and Tennessee, and at the close of the war it went with the army destined for Texas and served there until 1866. The Fourth had a longer term of service than any other regiment sent from Wisconsin to the war. From its ranks there came four generals: Gen. Harrison Cubart, Gen. O. H. LaGrange, Gen. Joseph Bailey, who rendered the county great service, and Gen. Halbert E. Paine, who served several terms in congress and held various positions in civil life. To have served in the bonny Fourth Wisconsin was an honor to any man. The Fourth had as colonels, and they were all superb soldiers and officers, Halbert E. Paine, S. A. Bean, Fred E. Boardman, Joseph Bailey, Webster Moore and N. F. Craigne. The regiment lost in battle 103, and from disease 261. It was mustered out of the service on the 28th of May, 1866, at Brownsville, Minnesota, and was sent to Madison, up the river, arriving there on the 16th of June, 1866, where this veteran cavalry regiment was soon afterward paid off and disbanded.

CHAPTER XII.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN, WAR OF THE REBELLION.

A careful search has been made through all available records, including the report of the adjutant general of Wisconsin for 1865, and the roster of Wisconsin volunteers published by authority of the legislature in 1886; we have endeavored to give here as accurate a list as is possible of the name of every man who volunteered or was drafted from Monroe county during that great struggle; owing to the similarity in names of towns in different counties some confusion has resulted, but the following roster is believed to be correct.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

Phillips, William J., Sparta; second lieutenant; died November 9, 1862, of wounds received at Chalk Bluff, Ark.

Company "H"—Henry J. Crouch, James W. Lewis, Serenus D. Lombard, Lewis Stanley, all of Ontario.

THIRD REGIMENT CAVALRY.

George D. Higgins, Sparta, hospital steward; Hiram A. Brundage, Sparta, battalion hospital steward.

Company "A"—Capt. Jeremiah D. Dammon, Sparta; Capt. Robert Carpenter, Sparta; Sec. Lieut. John Davis, Leon; Allen, Levi, Sparta; Barker, Peter R., Leon; Barnes, Seth, Sparta; Benedick, Origin R., Glendale; Bennett, Benjamin W., Sparta; Billings, Frederick, Sparta; Blake, Albert J., Sparta; Briggs, Charles, Adrian; Britton, Orrin A., Sparta; Brundage, Hiram A., Adrian; Bullen, Benjamin, Sparta; Bullen, Jesse P., Little Falls; Burdick, Alfred, Sparta; Butterfield, LaFayette, Sparta; Carr, William, Sparta; Carr, Verello, Little Falls; Chadsey, Joseph, Leon; Cornish, John H., Sparta; Critchett, William H., Sheldon; Crosby, George C., Sparta; Davis, Josiah, Sparta; Decker, Joseph M., Adrian; Delong, William A., Angelo; Dunlap, James F., Glendale; Davis, William, Roaring Creek; Eddy, Edgar, Sparta;

Farwell, Corydon J., Sparta; Finnell, Joseph, Sparta; Foot, William R., LaFayette; Fullagar, Benjamin, LaFayette; Gates, Charles F., Sparta; Gilbert, Thomas, Athens; Gilson, Clark, Adrian; Gordon, Oscar L., Wellington; Green, Manson L., Glendale; Grumons, John, Leon; Harris, Lewis P., Little Falls; Henderson, William, Leon; Hettman, Fredric C., Sparta; Hill, John, Eaton; Hill, Simeon, Eaton; Hodgkins, George C., Sparta; Hogue, Hugh T., Sparta; Hohn, Reuben, Leon; Hollenbeck, Henry D., Sparta; Hoover, Ancill B., Wellington; Houghtaling, John, Wellington; Howland, Herman, Sparta; Hubbard, Ozro W., Sparta; Hubbard, Charles F., Sparta; Hull, Joseph C., Sparta; Hubbard, Watts W., Sparta; Johnson, Thomas, Sparta; Johnson, Frederick H., Adrian; Kidney, Albert J. H., Sparta; LaBare, Charles, Sparta; Lawrence, Robert, Sparta; Logan, Samuel M., Sparta; McGary, Thomas, Ridgeville; McNab, Daniel, Sparta; McNab, James S., Roaring Creek; McMillan, William F., Sparta; McQueen, Samuel, Glendale; McWithy, Lucian A., Sparta; McWithy, Henry E., Sparta; Meadows, Thomas E., Portland; Meadows, William H., Sparta; Meadows, Charles W., Leon; Peters, Nelson, Adrian; Peters, Timothy, Angelo; Peters, Munson, Adrian; Pierce, Austin, Sparta; Pierce, Martin, Sparta; Putnam, Charles, Leon; Pain, John, Roaring Creek; Rawson, Lucian M., Wilton; Russell, Andrew, Sparta; Seeley, Boyd F., Athens; Smith, John J., Leon; Snow, Jonathan, Leon; Snyder, Abram C., Sparta; Starkweather, Hiram, Sparta; Steward, Henry E., Adrian; Thorp, Adelbert D., Glendale; Thorp, Charles R., Sparta; Tower, Martin V. B., Clifton; Underwood, Horace H., Portland; Walrath, John J., Sparta; Waste, James, Sparta; West, Francis D., Sparta; Wiseman, Augustus, Athens; Wensel, William J., Roaring Creek; Youmans, Samuel J., Leon.

Company "K"—Hohn, Elmore, Sparta; Riggs, Andrew, Sparta; Stegmann, Conrad, Portland; Walter, Charles, Portland; Zoelle, Valentine, Portland.

The Third Wisconsin cavalry was reorganized in 1864 and a large number of Monroe County men re-enlisted. All from original Company "A": Barker, Peter R., Leon; Billings, Fredrick, Sparta; Blake, Albert J., Sparta; Butterfield, LaFayette, Sparta; Chadsey, Joseph, Leon; Farwell, Corydon, J., Sparta; Gates, Charles F., Sparta; Gilbert, Thomas, Athens; Grummons, John, Leon; Hollenbeck, Henry D., Sparta; Howland, Herman, Sparta; Hubbard, Charles B., Sparta; Hubbard, Watts W., Sparta; Johnson, Fredrick H., Adrian; Kidney, Albert J. H., Sparta; LaBare, Charles, Sparta; McMillan, Wm. F., Sparta; McQueen, Samuel,

Glendale; Meadows, William H., Sparta; Meadows, Edward T., Portland; Meadows, Charles W., Leon; Nichols, Joseph, Greenfield; Paine, John, Roaring Creek; Peters, Nelson, Adrian; Seeley, Boyd F., Athens; Thorp, Charles R., Sparta; Tower, Martin V. B., Clifton; Wabrath, John J., Sparta; Wiseman, Augustus, Athens.

FOURTH REGIMENT CAVALRY.

Theodore W. Gillett, commissary, Tomah; sergeant majors, Myron P. Chase, Sparta, second lieutenant Company "I," June 24, 1863; Daniel A. Kenyon, Tomah; saddler sergeant, Rufus A. Robertson, Sparta.

Company "A"—Farnsworth, James B., Tomah, captain, August 22, 1865; made major June 18, 1866; Alton, Michael C., Adrian; Ayres, Anson, Angelo; Bacon, Amos, Leon; Baker, George R., Tomah; Batis, Mathis, Tomah; Beckwith, Joseph, Sparta; Boyle, John, Wilton; Childs, Clinton D., Sparta; Cray, Parman, Sparta; English, Isaac, Tomah; Getman, Hiram, Lincoln; Getman, Lorenzo, Lincoln; Gleason, Emanuel P., LaFayette; Haynes, Sanford A., Leon; Jackson, William S., Tomah; Knight, Charles A., Tomah; Kerr, Alexander, Tomah; Putnam, Lucius M., Sparta; Ralston, William H., LaFayette; Roberts, Wilmot, Sparta; Root, Jason, Tomah; Seeley, David A., Sparta; Skinner, John B., Portland; Smith, John, Adrian; Twiner, Jonathan F., Adrian; Van Kirk, John H., Sparta; Walker, Joseph A., Ontario; Weed, William D., Tomah; Wheeler, John W., Sparta.

Company "C"—Baker, Hugh, Sparta, second lieutenant, June 18, 1866.

Company "D"—Lock, Henry F., Sparta, from Co. "I" Vet. Corp; McLain, Eleazer P., Sparta; from Co. "I" Vet. Corp; Walworth, Hartwell C., Tomah, from Co. "I" Vet. Corp.

Company "E"—Capt. Joseph Hall, Tomah.

Company "I"—John W. Lynn, captain, Sparta; Levi R. Blake, captain, Sparta; Capt. Daniel G. Jewett, Sparta; Capt. Jas. B. Farnsworth, Tomah; First Lieut. Myron P. Chas, Sparta; Sec. Lieut. Ansyl A. West, Sparta; Alger, Josiah, Leon; Alton, Michael C., Adrian, transferred to Co. "A"; Ayers, Anson, Angelo; Ayres, Albert, Leon; Bacon, Amos, Leon; Baker, Charles, Ridgeville, transferred to Co. "A"; Baker, Hugh, Ridgeville, transferred to Co. "C"; Baker, George R., Tomah, transferred to Co. "A"; Beckwith, Joseph, Sparta; transferred to Co. "A"; Beardsley, George L., Tomah; Blake, Albert H., Sparta, transferred to 20th Inf.; Bloss, Charles, Greenfield, transferred to Co.

"A"; Boring, LaFayette, Ontario; Boyle, John, Wilton, transferred to Co. "A"; Brist, Mandly W., Wilton; Bush, Wm. J., Tomah; Chandler, John L., Greenfield; Cole, John N., Cataract; Gray, Parkman, Sparta, transferred to Co. "A"; Davidson, Joseph H., Leon; English, Isaac, Tomah; Farley, William E., Sparta; Getman, Lorenzo, Lincoln, transferred to Co. "A"; Getman, Hiram, Lincoln, transferred to Co. "A"; Gillett, Theo. W., Tomah; Gilson, William, Tomah; Gleason, Emanuel P., LaFayette, transferred to Co. "A"; Graham, Miller, Sheldon; Greenman, James, Wilton; Grenzo, John, Wilton; Hall, Joseph, Tomah, first lieutenant, May 30, 1864; Hall, Benjamin F., Sparta; Hall, Archibald G., Leon; Hall, Joseph R., Leon; Haynes, Sanford A., Tomah; transferred to Co. "A"; Hill, Jacob, Sparta; Hodgkins, Edward I., Sparta; Hubbard, Charles S., Wilton, transferred to Co. "A"; Hull, Edward, Sparta; Jackson, William S., Tomah, transferred to Co. "A"; Jewell, Isaac., Roaring Creek; Johnston, Clayton M., Tomah; Jones, Ransom, Sparta; Kennedy, John, Sparta; Kerr, Alexander, Tomah, transferred to Co. "A"; Knight, Charles A., Tomah, transferred to Co. "A"; Large, Jacob I., Tomah; Matteson, John P., Cataract; McClure, John B., Sparta; McLain, Eleazor P., Cataract, transferred to Co. "D"; Meadows, William C., Sparta; Osborn, George I., Sparta, transferred to Co. "C"; Pangburn, William, Sparta; Perry, John T., Roaring Creek; Putnam, Lucius M., Sparta, transferred to Co. "A"; Ralston, William H., LaFayette; Rathbun, Dewey, Leon; Rice, Wellington, Ridgeville; Robertson, Rufus A., Sparta; Rockwood, James H., Leon; Rockwood, Theodore H., Adrian; Root, Jason, Tomah, transferred to Co. "A"; Smith, John, Adrian, transferred to Co. "A"; Spaulding, Charles D., Tomah; Skinner, John B., Portland; transferred to Co. "A"; Tolles, William, Wilton, transferred to Co. "A"; Turner, Jonathan F., Adrian, transferred to Co. "A"; Van Arnum, LaFayette, Cataract; Van Kirk, John, Angelo; Walker, Harlow S., Cataract; Weed, William D., Tomah; Yoemans, William H., Sparta; Yoemans, James H., Sparta.

Company "L"—Capt. Joseph Hall, Tomah.

FIRST BATTERY, LIGHT ARTILLERY.

Babcock, Oscar, Tunnel City; Buzzell, Charles C., Sparta; Carvar, Nelson, Wilton; Clark, John, Clifton; Green, Frank L., Sparta; Harper, Peter, Sparta; Hayward, Pliny P., Sparta; Herrick, George L., Sparta; Hodgkins, Edward I., Sparta; Hoyt, Samuel, Sparta; Joseph, Charles, Lincoln; Ledyard, Nathaniel

D., Sparta; McCabe, John, Sparta; McIntyre, Charles, Sparta; Middaugh, Charleston E., Sparta; Milligan, Joseph G., Sparta; Murphy, William, Cataract; Pangborn, Hiram L., Sparta; Powell, Milton E., Sparta; Randless, James W., Wilton; Rathbun, Hallett, Leon; Rathbun, William A., Jefferson; Rice, Benjamin W., Oakdale; Smith, Gilbert, Wilton; Sowle, Albert W., Wilton; Summerfield, William A., Sparta, transferred to Company 1, H. A.; Thrall, John, Sparta; Whitaker, Samuel, Wilton; Williams, Jay W., Sparta; Woodbridge, Charles B., Tunnel City.

TENTH BATTERY, LIGHT ARTILLERY.

Junior Second Lieut. Henry A. Hicks, Glendale; Minets, Nelson, Clifton.

THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "E"—Ackerman, James O. Byron; Adelmeyer, John H., Leroy; Bates, Butler H., Leroy; Blanchard, Edmund L., Leroy; Braman, James H., Byron; Weyranch, Conrad, Lincoln.

Company "F"—Bashford, Frank W., Clifton; Brown, William C., Clifton; Cook, George, Clifton; Ellis, Leroy, Clifton.

SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "B"—Andre, John, Lincoln; Brown, Christopher, Portland; Delwick, Eugene, Lincoln; Erickson, Lars, Portland.

Company "H"—Aney, John J., Ridgeville; Ballamore, James, Sparta; Combert, James, Sparta; Cottrill, Stephen, Sparta; Downing, George W., Sparta; Downey, Charles H., Sparta; Dunn, George W., Sparta; Hancock, George W., Sparta; Harding, Charles, Sparta; Williams, James P., Ontario; Weston, Charles B., Ontario.

Company "I"—Capt. Leonard Johnson, Glendale; Bolden, William L., Ontario; Boughton, Lewis M., Tomah; Brigham, John M., Glendale; Davis, Lawson, Glendale; Briggs, Job S., Glendale, afterward second lietuenant Forty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry; Graham, Larneck, Tomah; Green, Chester A., Glendale; Harland, John, Glendale; Johnson, William H., Sparta; Newton, Thomas, Glendale; Robbins, George, Glendale; Rockwell, Eli, Sparta; Staker, James A., Sparta; Warner, Valentine, Sparta.

Company "K"—Andress, Alonzo L., Tunnel City; Conway, Thomas, Lincoln; Cummings, Daniel, Sparta; Dowing, George W., Sparta, from Company "H"; Hancock, William D., Clifton;

Revels, William J., Sparta; Revels, Henry, Sparta; Rolfe, Albert H., Sparta; Taylor, Charles M., Tomah; Van Wie, David C., LaFayette; Williams, Jured, Ontario.

RECRUITS NOT ON COMPANY ROLLS.

Cullow, Edward, Tomah; Culver, Charles A., Sparta; Element, Frank, Clifton; Grimes, James, LaFayette; Kelso, Evans P., Sparta; Stalker, Clinton L., Sparta.

SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Col. William W. Robinson, Sparta, lieutenant colonel, August 15, 1861; colonel, January 30, 1862.

Company "A"—Culver, William P., Lincoln; Kitts, Edward, Leroy; Walrod, Jonathan, Portland.

Company "B"—Barman, William W., Tomah; Blowers, John J., Tomah.

Company "E"—Robinson, William W., Sparta; Spooner, Edward J., Lincoln.

Company "I"—Capt. Edward Terrell, Leon; Birdsall, David, Leon; Perkins, Hugh, Leon; Williams, George W., Leon; Williams, Byron S., Leon.

RECRUITS NOT ON ROLLS.

Kavanaugh, Patrick, Kendall.

EIGHTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "D"—Aney, James P., Ridgeville, from Company "I"; Hall, William G., Sparta; Parker, Adelbert, Sparta.

Company "I"—Worden, Henry D., Wilton.

TENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "D"—Shaffer, William Henry, Sparta.

Company "G"—Carnahan, Archibald, Sparta; Carnahan, Andrew, Sparta, transferred to Twenty-first Wisconsin; Lane, George, Jefferson; Lane, Jobe, Sparta.

Company "H"—Beardsley, Everett W., Tomah; Bigelow, Hiram O., Lincoln; Church, Orange, Lincoln; Corey, Phillip, Greenfield; Deyotell, John, Tomah; Gee, Charles C., Sparta; Gorman, Aaron H., Tomah; Harding, William, Sparta; Harp, William, Lincoln; Harp, Jacob, Tomah; Haywood, Joel, Tomah; Hogue, Charles P., Sparta; McClure, Samuel, Tomah; McGinniss, Joseph, Greenfield; Rockwood, Delorama, Tomah; Spaulding, Henry C., Tomah; Spooner, Charles W., Tomah; Thomas, Melvin

G., Lincoln; Thompson, Dwight, Tomah; Weaver, Hiram O., Tomah.

Company "K"—Calhoun, John, Byron; Dow, Loren, Wilton; Gibbs, Albert, Byron; Graves, Russell C., Leroy; Hatch, Charles, Leroy.

ELEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "E"—Barber, Hubert, Wilton; Beaumont, George, Kendall; Carr, Andrew, Kendall; Dain, James M., Kendall; Doyle, John, Kendall; Gugerty, William A., Kendall; Marr, Andrew, Kendall; Murphy, Dennis W., Kendall; Shea, Edward, Kendall.

Company "F"—Carver, Austin, Wilton; Early, John, Greenfield.

Company "G"—James, Joseph, Portland.

Company "H"—Chamberlain, Thomas, Lincoln; Hancock, Thomas H., Tomah; Hollenback, Charles, Lincoln.

TWELFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "D"—Bass, Charles H., Tomah; Birdsell, John, Sparta; Braman, Edward F., Tomah; Broughton, Timothy B., Tomah; Cleveland, Daniel F., Tomah, from Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry; Darwin, Samuel N., Sparta; Haskins, Nathaniel, Sparta; Matchett, James, Sparta; Peterson, Christopher, Tomah; Parshall, William H. H., Sparta; Purcell, Walter W., Tomah, from Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry; Putman, Charles H., Sparta, from Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry; Richardson, Perry, Glendale; Scott, Leonard, Sparta, from Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry; Tuthell, John, Sparta, from Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry; Trowlridge, George M., Tomah, from Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry; Van Kirk, Jeremiah, Sparta; Vaughn, Harrison H., Tomah.

Company "E"—Livingston, James, Roaring Creek, from Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry.

Company "H,"—Rogers, Jacob, Tomah.

Company "I"—Griffin, Charles, Tomah.

Company "K"—Nicols, John, Kendall, from Company "E," Twenty-fifth Infantry.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "D"—Harrison, William L., Greenfield; Sour, Daniel H., Sparta.

Company "I"—Reeder, George W., Sparta.

FIFTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "H"—Second Lieut. Martin A. Erickson, Sparta.
Recruits Not on Any Company Roll—Ole Olson, Tomah.

SIXTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "C"—Kelly, Jeremiah, Glendale, from Company "F," V. C.; Lyman, Jeremiah, Glendale; Pearsoll, James I., Glendale; Rowin, Robert, Glendale, from Company "F"; Saddoris, Samuel, Summit, from Company "F"; Teed, Truman, Glendale.

Company "D"—Lloyd, Silas, Portland, transferred to Company "E"; Walrod, Michael, Portland.

Company "E"—McDougal, Fredrick E., Tomah.

Company "F"—Birdsill, George, Glendale; Boughton, Timothy, Glendale; Hancock, Wallace B., Clifton; Douglas, Richard A., Glendale; Teed Truman, Glendale; Morse, Anthony, Lincoln; Palmer, Sylvester C., Lincoln; Winegar, William, Lincoln.

SIXTEENTH REGIMENT (NEW COMPANIES).

Company "B"—Nelson, Andrew A., Portland.

Company "H"—Thompson, Alexander, Sparta; Wilcox, Martin, LaFayette.

SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Sergt. Maj. Edwin L. Bolton, Tomah, from Company "E."

Company "A"—Bannigan, William, Tomah; Miller, Joseph, Tomah.

Company "B"—Claigg, Hospild, Kendall; Okes, Charles, Kendall.

Company "H"—Reddelin, John, Ridgeville.

EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

James Delaney, chaplain, Sparta; Hosp. Steward, Luther B. Noyes, Sparta.

Company "C"—Carpenter, John, Jefferson; Frazer, Elijah S., Jefferson; Herron, John, Jefferson; Rodgers, Merrick, LaFayette.

Company "D"—Capt. George A. Fisk, Sparta; First Lieut. Dewitt C. Wilson, Sparta; Austin, Palmer, Sparta; Beach, Arunah J., Angelo; Beach, Henry, Angelo; Birgal, Francis, Cataract; Brown, Jesse, Angelo; Bugbee, Lanson L., Cataract; Campbell, George, Angelo; Comstock, Ambrose L., Leon; Crocker,

Ephrain, Eaton; Culver, Nathan, Ontario, transferred to Company "K"; Dustin, John P., Cataract; Farr, Leroy H., Cataract; Finnel, James, Ontario; Freeman, Select, Sparta; Gary, John, Sparta; Gross, John, Sparta, transferred to Company "K"; Herrick, Lotin C., Sparta; Hill, Oscar A., Sparta; Hoard, Ziba, Cataract; Humphrey, John, Sparta; Jewell, John D., Sparta, transferred to Company "K"; Landon, Lewis, Cataract; Lang, Daniel H., Wellington, transferred to Company "K"; Lathrop, Alfred H., Tomah; Lowe, William H., Greenfield, transferred to Company "K"; Maguire, Thomas, Sparta; Maila, Charles, Ontario; Mathews, Albert C., Cataract; McKay, Sheldon, Cataract; Merriam, Enos S., Sparta; Merriam, Charles W., Sparta; Mitchell, DeLos W., Jefferson; Mooney, James, Sheldon; Mott, Theodore, Portland; Noyes, Luther B., Sparta, promoted to hospital steward, 1861; Osborn, James, Sr., Leon; Osborn, James, Jr., Leon; Pierce, Henry, Adrian; Phelps, Henry J., Ontario; Purdy, Owen W., LaFayette; Rathbun, Dewey, Leon; Rathbun, Charles, Leon; Remington, George, Rockland; Riggs, Andrew, Leon; Ring, Alonzo, Sparta; Robinson, John, Sparta; Robinson, William, Sparta; Rowley, Henry M., Ontario; Sanderlin, Isaac S., Greenfield, transferred to Company "K"; Sayles, William H., Sparta; Seepry, Edward, Cataract; Sheldon, Joshua W., Sheldon; Smith, Amisa, Angelo; Sprout, Cummings, N., Cataract; Stacy, Norman B.; LaFayette; Stetson, James M., LaFayette; Stratton, Josiah, Sparta; Stewart, Milton M., Sparta; Teague, Isaac, Sparta; Townsend, Waldron, Jefferson; Townsend, Jonathan, Jefferson; Wilson, High C., Eaton; Winter, John, Cataract; Woodford, Thomas, Cataract; Wheeler, John F., Ridgeville; Youmans, William, Angelo.

Company "K"—Jewell, John D., Sparta, from Company "D"; Kapping, Christian, Eaton; Lown, William H., Greenfield, from Company "D"; Lang, Daniel H., Wellington, from Company "D"; Danderlin, Isaac S., Greenfield, from Company "D."

NINETEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Q. M. Sergt. William H. Blyton, Sparta; Com. Sergt. Galusha B. Field, Sparta; Prin. Musician William Kerrigan, Sparta, from Company "C."

Company "A"—Lee, Byron B., Sparta; Sheridan, James, Leon, from Company "G."

Company "C"—Capt. John A. Chandler, Sparta; Capt. Alonzo H. Russell, Sparta; First Lieut. William R. V. Frisby, Sparta; Allen, James M., Eaton; Ashton, John, Sparta; Austin, William

G., Sparta; Barber, George H., Sparta; Beardsley, George W., Sparta; Bingham, Henry S., Sparta; Bloom, Henry J., Sparta; Blyton, Thomas W., Leon; Blyton, Charles W., Sparta; Brandenstein, John, Ridgeville; Bremer, Charles, Sparta; Brist, William, Sparta; Bullen, Samuel T., Sparta; Campbell, Eleazor J., Sparta; Chamley, William, Sparta; Close, Wesley J., Sparta; Commons, James, Sparta; Cottinger, John, Sparta; Coon, Caleb, Sparta; Cutland, Phillip, Sparta; Draper, John, Sparta; Draper, Thomas, Jefferson; Fields, Galusha B., Sparta, promoted to commanding sergeant; Garden, Daniel, Leon; Gates, Melvill B., Sparta; Gross, Henry, Sparta, transferred to V. R. C.; Hall, Horace, Sparta; Gross, John P., Jefferson; Hartwell, William H., Sparta; Henshell, William H. I., Sparta; Hill, Eber B., Sparta; Howard, David H., Sparta; Hurlbut, Albert H., Sparta; Hutchins, Sylvester, Sparta; Jonas, Elias, Leon; Jones, Thomas, Leon; Jones, John W., Sparta; Lovell, Abijah J., Eaton; Lynn, James H., Sparta; McDougal, Alexander, Sparta; McGary, Henry, Ridgeville; McPheters, Alexander, Leon; Moore, Horace J., Sparta; Murray, Christopher, Sparta; Nichols, Joseph, Sparta; Nolan, Andrew, Ridgeville; Pangburn, Francis S., LaFayette; Payne, Nelson, Sparta; Perkins, John B., LaFayette; Pierce, Alfred, Sparta; Pameroy, Erastus, Sparta; Potter, Joseph W., Sparta; Potter, Jasper, Sparta; Preston, Taylor, Sparta; Premo, Lewis, Lincoln; Rath, Henry A., Ridgeville; Rathbun, Edward C., Sparta; Rathbun, Edmund, Sparta; Ross, Elisha, Leon; Sanderlin, John, Sparta; Schmitz, William, Jefferson; Sherwood, Martin, Ridgeville; Shepherd, George A., Sparta; Shepherd, William, Angelo; Shepherd, George W., Angelo; Sheridan, James, Sparta, from Company "F"; Snow, Jaspar E., Sparta, from second lieutenant; Steward, James, Sparta; Suckam, Edward, Sparta; Swift, Lucian, Sparta; Swift, Cola, Sparta; Utter, Benjamin F., Leon; Walter, Michael, Cataract; Warner, Samuel W., Sparta; Whitelesly, George M., Jefferson; Witting, John, Sparta; Woodliff, John, Sparta; Wruk, Christian, Sparta; Ziegler, Caspar, Ridgeville.

Company "D"—Allendorf, Peter, Angelo; Clifford, Charles C., Sparta, from Company "G"; Cooper, Silas J., Sheldon; Hollenbeck, William A., Lincoln, from Company "G"; Hoskins, Marvin, Lincoln, from Company "G"; Hubbard, Richard, Ridgeville; Mallory, Rodney D., Lincoln; Meyer, Christian, Ridgeville, from Company "G"; Robson, John, Leon, from Company "G"; Sabls, Charles F., Leon; Shanklin, Ridgeville, from Company "G"; Sherwin, Bissels, Angelo; Wilson, Roger J., Leon, from Company "G."

Company "E"—Tuttle, Ezra, Wellington.

Company "G"—Crane, Obadiah, Lincoln; Culver, Luke, Byron; Hettman, Jacob R., Ridgeville; Haskins, Varvin B., Lincoln, transferred to Company "D"; Hollenbeck, William A., Lincoln, transferred to Company "D"; Meyer, Christian, Ridgeville, transferred to Company "D"; Vaughan, George W., Byron; Vaughan, Ira W., Byron; Wilson, Addison, Lincoln; Wilson, Roger J., Leon.

Company "K"—Bist, William, Sparta, transferred to Company "C"; Close, Wilsey J., Sparta, transferred to Company "C"; Hazelton, James A., Sparta; Hill, Alber B., Sparta, transferred to Company "C."

Recruits Not on Company Roll—Pick, William H., Sparta.

TWENTIETH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "A"—Babcock, Ralph W., Tomah; Chandler, Jeremiah D., Tunnel City.

Company "F"—First Lieut. Albert H. Blake, Sparta; Degotell, Abraham, Lincoln; Degotell, William, Lincoln; Duggan, James, Greenfield; Durant, Robert E., Sparta; Eastman, Limuel, Clifton; Frank, John, Jefferson; Hicks, Addison G., Sparta; Johnson, John, Greenfield; Jones, Henry C., Clifton; Kies, Alva E., Clifton; Lamb, Galen, Tomah; Lewis, Samuel, Sparta; Nolle, Bernhard, Sparta; Thiry, John L. C., Sparta; Vincent, Fredrick, Sparta.

TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Col. Milton Montgomery, Sparta; Surgeon Martin R. Gage, Sparta; Hosp. Stewards Charles W. Kellogg, Tomah; Samuel Gunn, Sparta.

Company "D"—Capt. James D. Condit, Sparta; Capt. Mortimer E. Leonard, Sparta; First Lieut. Charles S. Farnham, Sparta; Second Lieut. Andrew J. High, Sparta; Ables, Henry A., Wellington; Aldrich, Nathan B., Angelo; Alger, Thomas, Leon; Ayers, Albert, Sparta, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Bailey, Ammon, Lincoln; Bass, Charles H., Lincoln, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Birdsill, John, Glendale, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Bon, David B., Lincoln; Boughton, William T., Tomah; Boyle, Peter, Wilton; Braman, Edward P., Tomah, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Braman, Roswell E., Lincoln; Broughton, Timothy B., Glendale, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Burdick, Alfred, LaFayette; Carver, Nelson, Wilton; Chat-

terson, Jefferson, Angelo; Cleveland, Daniel F., Ridgeville; Conger, Lewis B., Ridgeville; Crawford, Charles H., Tomah; Cressy, Henry W., Tomah; Cressy, Warren P., Tomah; Darwin, Samuel N., Sparta; Day, Henry, Wellington; Demmon, Ira P., Tomah; Depen, Wiley, Tomah; Dunlap, Robert B., Sparta; Dunlevy, Thomas, Sparta; Edgerton, Henry L., Lincoln; Edgerton, Charles L., Lincoln; Fitch, Norman D., Sparta; Foster, Anson T., Sparta; Gill, Edward, Wilton; Gleason, George, Lincoln; Goff, Spenser F., Lincoln; Green, Abner, Sparta; Grover, Elizer H., Wilton; Harland, William H., Glendale, Harman, John A., Sparta; Harp, George F., Tomah; Heth, Perry, Ridgeville; Haskins, Nathaniel, Sparta, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Holgate, Francis, Clifton; Hollenbeck, Amos J., Sparta; Houghtaling, Henry, Wellington; House, Phileman P., Wilton; Howard, Charles, Tomah; Howes, David S., Tomah; Hull, Richard J., Angelo; Huntley, Jabez L., Sparta; Hutson, Thomas, Angelo; Hyde, Alfred, Tomah; Johnson, Eben, Tomah; Justice, John, Sparta; King, George W., Tomah, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Kinney, William H., Sparta; Kenyon, Monroe, Sparta; Lamb, William H., Tomah; Leavett, Edward, Sparta; Lewis, Thomas S., Angelo; Littell, James H., Angelo; Little, Theodore W., Sparta; Lyon, Samuel J., Glendale; Moltby, Appelton N., Tomah; Manchester, Charles G., Sparta; Manly, Henry, Greenfield; Matchet, James, Pine Hill; McGinnis, Elisha A., Tomah; McLean, William, Tomah; Miller, Alexander, Sparta; Milligan, Rueben A., Sparta; Mills, Elias, Leroy; Mills, Eli, Leroy; Minor, William H., Ridgeville; Morrision, W. A. Sparta; Musgrave, William P., Sparta; Newton, Daniel, Glendale; Owens, Lewis E., Portland; Peterson, Christopher, Tomah; Quackenbush, Ernest, Pine Hill, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infanty; Pursell, Walter P., Tomah, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Putman, Charles H., Sparta, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Quackenbush, George, Pine Hill; Randles, John, Wilton; Rathbun, Robert B., Sparta; Reed, Cheney, LaFayette; Reeve, Horace, Little Falls; Richardson, Samuel, Glendale; Richardson, Perry, Glendale; Rood, William J., Ridgeville; Rottenstetter, Simon, Tomah; Russell, Alexander, Sparta; Rugg, Alfred H., Tomah, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Sanders, William H., Lincoln; Sawyer, Peter E., Lincoln; Scott, Leonard, Sparta, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Scoville, Charles, Wilton; Scruby, John, Sparta; Shaw, Joseph, Tomah, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Shaw, William E., Adrian; Sherland, Joel E.,

Angelo; Sliker, John J., Tomah; Snow, George M., Sparta; Spooner, Daniel H., Lincoln; Squirls, Gardner, Lincoln; Thompson, James W., Greenfield; Thomson, Allen, Ridgeville; Trowbridge, George M., Tomah, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Trulsdell, William P., Tomah; Tuthell, John, Sparta, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Ustick, Jacob Y., Tomah; Van Anthrip, Edward, Sparta; Van Kirk, Jeremiah, Sparta, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Vaughn, Emery W., Lincoln; Vanghan, Harrison H., Lincoln, transferred to Company "D," Twelfth Infantry; Watson, George R., Lincoln; West, Hial, Glendale; Wilcox, Lucius C., Angelo; Wilcox, William N., Angelo; Wolcott, George L., Leon; Worden, Samuel H., Glendale; Wright, William H., Tomah; Wyant, William H., Sparta; Yomans, William H., Leon.

Company "E"—Bartdel, Francis A., Clifton; Hudson, James R., Clifton; Mero, Fredrick, Clifton.

Company "F"—Brainerd, Darwin L., Glendale; Berry, Charles H., Sparta; Bugbee, Alien, Tomah; Burlingame, Phillip, Tomah; Chadwick, James, Roaring Creek; Chapman, John D., Roaring Creek; Coonrod, Jared P., Roaring Creek; Davis, Sheron, Sparta; Dell, Edward, Roaring Creek; Echner, Philemon, Greenfield; Godbould, David, Tomah; Helmka, Fredrick, Adrian; Hastings, Orlando D., Lincoln; Lewis, Samuel C., Tomah; Lincoln, James H., Ridgeville; Nelliot, Simeon, Sparta; Papst, William G., Greenfield; Spencer, William J., Leroy; Taylor, Pratt M., Leroy; Walker, Charles M., Tomah.

Company "G"—Bishop, Joseph, Angelo; Bishop, Amos, Angelo; Mann, Nathan, Cataract; Mann, Eliade E., Cataract.

Company "H"—Falke, Fredrick, Sheldon; Finnell, James, Sheldon; Heath, Winslow J., Sheldon; Howard, John, Adrian; King, Robert, Adrian; Schmelling, Fredrick, Ridgeville.

THIRTIETH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "C"—Wade, Edward F., Lincoln.

Company "H"—Blakeley, James H., Leon; Blakeley, Revilo, Leon; Brown, John S., Leon; Carpenter, William J., Leon; Maitland, John, Leon; Mathews, James J., Leon; Mathews, William, Leon; Noyes, Fredrick E., Leon; Stratton, William, Leon; Warren, Goram N., Leon; Weaver, David, Leon.

Company "I"—Block, August, Lincoln; Brick, Edward P., Lincoln; Hill, Mathias, Lincoln; Honodell, John, Lincoln; Roach, Ernest, Lincoln.

Company "K"—Steese, William H., Lincoln; Stelson,

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LaFayette, Lincoln; Stone, John F., LaFayette, Whitney, Bernard K., Tunnel City.

THIRTY-SECOND REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "E"—Young, Thomas, Clifton.

THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "C"—Capt. George A. Fisk, Sparta; First Lieut. Luther B. Noyes, Sparta; Baker, John, Ridgeville; Barnes, Alfred O., Little Falls; Berry, Jehial S., Sparta; Britton, Daniel A., Sparta; Brown, Huston, Sparta; Casner, Thomas, Sparta; Carnahan, Archibald, Sparta; Cleaves, Corydon L., Portland; Cole, David W., Adrian; Cole, Darwin, Sparta; Cross, George C., Little Falls; Cross, Jeremiah A., Sparta; Davis, Robert A., Little Falls; Douglas, David, Little Falls; Dunbar, Alfred, Sparta; Emmos, Andrew J., Sparta; Fink, Cornilius, Sparta; Fosdick, Jay H., Little Falls; Freeman, Fredrick, Sparta; Gallaghur, Thomas W., Sparta; Graves, Nathan, Sparta; Greenman, George E., Sparta; Griffin, Valentine, Angelo; Hathaway, Henry, Sparta; Head, Delo W., Little Falls; Hunt, John W., Little Falls; Ingersall, Daniel, Sparta; Ingersall, William M., Sparta; Ingles, Augustus B., Leon; John, Charles W., Little Falls; Jones, Milo, Sparta; Kroll, William F., Little Falls; Martin, John, Little, Falls; Matteson, David A., Little Falls; McClure, Charles L., Sparta; Miles, Stephen C., Sparta; Nichols, Theodore, Sparta; Nichols, Edward, Sparta; Peterson, Joseph R., Sparta; Potter, Joseph W., Sparta; Rathbun, Eldridge, Sparta; Ripley, Edwin, Sparta; Sacia, Henry, Sparta; Sherwood, Martin, Ridgeville; Sour, Cynes, Ridgeville; Stevens, John E., Portland, Walker, Perry C., Little Falls; Washburn, William H., Little Falls; Wilsey, John J., Portland; Wolcott, Jerome B., Sparta; Wright, William, Sparta; Yoemans, Samuel J., Sparta; Young, Jerome B., Sparta.

FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "K"—Capt. Robert A. Gillett, Tomah; Armstrong, Sebastian, Greenfield; Buswell, Samuel, Glendale; Cassels, William, Tomah; Collins, Neal M., Glendale; Day, Allen, Wellington; Durkee, Lawren O., Tomah; Englerth, Adam, Ridgeville; Grover, James K., Oakdale; Gudbauer, William, Greenfield; Kellogg, Charles H., Tomah; Lamb, Lewis A., Greenfield; Loomer, Amasa, Lincoln; Medcalf, Edward M., Greenfield; Mooney, James, Sheldon; Moore, David A., Glendale, Plunker, William, Tomah; Raf-

try, Thomas, Sheldon; Reikie, Thomas, Tomah; Robertson, Nethven, Tomah; Root, William L., Greenfield; Root, Mortimer, Greenfield; Thompson, Chelusk, Glendale; Thorpe, Adelbert D., Glendale; Twohay, John, Sheldon; Ward, Joseph, Glendale.

FORTY-FOURTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "E"—Bennett, Henry R. J., Sparta; Crosby, Charles, Sparta; Donovan, Daniel, Kendall, Donnelley, James, Kendall, Donnelley, Frank, Kendall; Duffy, John, Greenfield; Houghton, George B., Sparta; Kelley, Christopher, Greenfield; Lovell, Andrew C., Eaton; Mott, Alfred H., Leon; Williams, Henry C., Tomah; Wyman, Elias F., Eaton.

FORTY-SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "K"—Capt. Edward F. Wade, Lincoln; Johnson, Evan, Sparta; Johnson, Louis, Sheldon; Jones, John, Sparta; Losh, David W., Sparta; McLaren, William, Sparta; Oakley, Milton, Sparta; Stewart, John, Sparta; Stoddard, Richard M., Angelo; Underwood, Lyman, Sparta.

FORTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "H"—First Lieut. Job S. Driggs, Glendale.

FORTY-NINTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "C"—Curtis, Henry O., Sparta.

Company "I"—Capt. Christopher C. Miller, Tomah; Banker, Bethnel, Ontario; Bell, Richard, Cataract; Bellerman, Joseph, Ridgeville; Bigalow, Daniel W., Tomah; Brooks, Samuel E., Wilton, Burroughs, Eli, Wilton; Daggett, Samuel M., Wilton; Fish, Henry, Tomah; Fitch, Irvin N., Sparta; Fryer, John, Tomah; Fuller, William L., Glendale; Griswold, Samuel W., Ridgeville; Hale, Oliver C., Ridgeville; Hancock, William B., Wilton; Hodgkins, George C., Sparta; McManus, Vincent, Cataract; Miller, Buy, Lincoln; Palmer, Reuben, Little Falls; Palmer, Zarah, Cataract; Rhodes, Bela, Wilton; Skinner, Austin F., Cataract; Stranahan, Rodolphus A., Ridgeville; Thompson, Albert F., Ridgeville; Triffany, Sylvanus, Ridgeville; Tompkins, Chester W., Cataract; Vincenz, Ferdinand, Ridgeville; Weilep, Henry, Ridgeville; Whitney, Charles L., Lincoln; Whitney, Jacob W., Lincoln; Wise, Fredrick, Lincoln; Woodworth, Lucuis, Leon; Young, Thomas, Ontario.

FIFTIETH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "B"—Cummins, John, Jefferson; Haskill, Charles C., Jefferson; Johnson, Albert, Jefferson; Kight, James, Greenfield; Kight, John, Greenfield; Kyes, David S., Jefferson; Molley, Andrew, Jefferson; Moore, Daniel M., Jefferson; Moore, Robert J., Greenfield; Natwik, Ole H., Jefferson; Schriver, Buy F., Jefferson; Seals, Daniel W., Jefferson; Shult, Williams, Jefferson.

Company "I"—DeCoursey, Edward G., Sparta; Graff, Joseph, Greenfield; Hollock, Richard, Leon; Hewitt, Henry, Leon.

FIFTY-FIRST REGIMENT INFANTRY.

First Asst. Surgeon Rouse Bennett, Tomah.

FIFTY-SECOND REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "A"—Banker, Stephen O., Sparta; Edwards, William A., Sparta; Fairbanks, Abram F., LaFayette; Hubbard, Jobez, Lincoln; Mumford, James R., Sparta; Nolan, John, Leon; Perry, Leander, Leon; Talbot, Robert A., Sparta; West, Henry C., Sparta.

Company "D"—Brooks, Seth, Leon; Comstock, William B., Leon; Hilmer, Fredrick, LaFayette; Jacobs, John, Leon; Jost, Peter P., LaFayette; Keeler, Daniel H., Leon; Kinney, Peter S., Angelo; Luskuski, Nicholas, LaFayette; Putman, Isaac, Leon; Ray, Robert, Leon; Robinson, Henry J., Leon; Robinson, William B., Leon; Shaaf, Christian, Leon; West, Warren G., Leon; Winter, Simon, LaFayette; Woodworth, Chester, Leon.

FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Company "A"—Crouch, Stephen V., LaFayette; Curtiss, Martin M., Greenfield; Rosenan, John, Lincoln; Scott, Lee, Lincoln; Williams, Jeremiah G., Tomah.

FIRST REGIMENT (BERDAN'S) U. S. SHARP SHOOTERS.

Company "G"—Grover, George W., Tomah; Guthery, John L., Tomah; Murat, Conrad, Wilton.

CHAPTER XIII.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Monroe county can well be proud of the fact that its citizens did their full share and a little more, in the War of the Rebellion; in this connection it is a matter of considerable interest, that in addition to the large number of enlisted men, "The man behind the gun," many of its citizens received commission to various ranks to the extent of furnishing two colonels, one of whom was promoted to brevet brigadier general, two majors, fifteen captains, eleven first lieutenants, twelve second lieutenants, one regimental surgeon, one assistant surgeon and three regimental chaplains; and we here give the record of each man in the service as far as it is possible to obtain it from the official records.

COLONELS.

Milton Montgomery, Sparta. Was commissioned colonel of the Twenty-fifth Regiment of Infantry, with the rank, from August 16, 1862; was in command of a provisional division from June 6, 1863, to July 28, 1863; he commanded the First Brigade, Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, February 3 to April 14, 1864; he was wounded and taken prisoner July 22, 1864, at Decatur, Ga.; his right arm was amputated; upon his exchange and recovery he again reported for active duty and was assigned to the command of the same brigade, which he held from January 29 to March 28, 1865; on March 13, 1865, for gallant and meritorious conduct he was commissioned brevet brigadier general of United States Volunteers and was mustered out of the service June 7, 1865.

William W. Robinson, Sparta. Was mustered into the service August 15, 1861, as lieutenant colonel of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry; was severely wounded at Gainsville; was commissioned colonel January 30, 1862, and served until July 9, 1864, when he resigned his commission.

MAJORS.

George A. Fisk, Sparta. Was commissioned captain of Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, December 17, 1861; he was

taken prisoner at the battle of Shiloh, was exchanged and resigned his commission August 9, 1863. He again entered the service and was commissioned captain of Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, March 4, 1864, was promoted to the rank of major March 7, 1865, and mustered out of the service July 12, 1865.

James B. Farnsworth, Tomah. Enlisted in Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, April 20, 1861; was promoted to veterinary sergeant and first sergeant, commissioned second lieutenant of Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, August 11, 1862; first lieutenant June 24, 1863; captain September 24, 1864; he was transferred to the command of Company "A," Fourth Cavalry, August 22, 1865; commanded the Third Battery of the Fourth Cavalry, and was mustered out May 28, 1866, receiving a commission as major, dated June 18, 1866.

CAPTAINS.

Levi R. Blake, Sparta. Enlisted April 20, 1861, and was commissioned first lieutenant of Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, April 26, 1861; was severely wounded June 3, 1863, at Clinton, La., and died from the effects of his wounds June 10, 1863, at Batan Rouge, Louisiana.

Carpenter Robert, Sparta. Enlisted in Company "A," Third Cavalry, October 7, 1861. Was commissioned first lieutenant of Company "A," Third Cavalry, October 21, 1861; was mustered out of the service January 30, 1865. Upon the reorganization of the Third Cavalry he was commissioned captain of Company "L," March 9, 1865, and resigned his command August 14, 1865.

Chandler, John A., Sparta. He was commissioned captain of Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, January 8, 1862; resigned and retired July 30, 1862.

Damman, Jeremiah D., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "A," Third Cavalry, September 7, 1861, and was commissioned captain of company "A," Third Cavalry, October 31, 1861, and on account of disability, he resigned March 9, 1863.

Hall, Joseph, Tomah. Enlisted in Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, April 23, 1861; was promoted to corporal and sergeant, transferred to Company "L," Fourth Cavalry, and commissioned first lieutenant of the same company April 12, 1864; captain of Company "L" November 28, 1864, and transferred to the command of Company "E," Fourth Cavalry, August 20, 1865; mustered out of the service May 28, 1866.

Johnson, Leonard, Glendale. Enlisted in Company "L," Sixth Infantry, May 9, 1861; was commissioned captain of the same

company May 15, 1861; he resigned and retired from the service December 13, 1861.

Leonard, Mortimer, Sparta. Was mustered into the service as first lieutenant of Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, August 22, 1862; was wounded June 22, 1864, at Decatur, Ga.; was mustered out of the service June 7, 1865.

Lowrie, Alexander, Jefferson. Enlisted in Company "I," Sixth Infantry, June 1, 1861; was promoted to corporal, sergeant and first sergeant; was commissioned second lieutenant of the same company April 27, 1864; first lieutenant December 21, 1864, and captain February 25, 1865. He was wounded at the second battle of Bull Run, and was mustered out of the service July 14, 1865.

Lynn, John W., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, April 20, 1861; was commissioned captain of that company April 26, 1861; was killed July 15, 1862, on board the gunboat Tyler. The Post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Sparta bears his name.

Miles, Stephen C., Sparta. Enlisted February 29, 1864, in Company "C," Thirty-sixth Regiment Infantry; promoted to sergeant and first sergeant; was wounded at the battle of Cold Harbor; commissioned captain of the same company July 22, 1864; was mustered out of the service July 12, 1865, not having been mustered as a captain.

Miller, Christopher C., Tomah. Was mustered into Company "I," Forty-ninth Regiment Infantry, January 31, 1865, and commissioned captain of the same company February 24, 1865; was mustered out of the service November 8, 1865.

Russell, Alonzo H., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, January 7, 1862; was promoted to first sergeant; commissioned second lieutenant of the same company February 8, 1863; first lieutenant January 14, 1865; captain of the same company May 23, 1865, and was mustered out August 9, 1865.

Sloggy, Peter, Sparta. Was mustered into the service as second lieutenant Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, December 17, 1861; was commissioned first lieutenant of the same company July 10, 1863; commissioned captain August 11, 1863, and was mustered out of the service March 3, 1865.

Wilson, DeWitt C., Sparta. Was mustered into the service and commissioned first lieutenant of Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, December 17, 1861; he was taken prisoner at the battle of Shiloh; was exchanged and promoted to captain in the Eighth Louisiana (colored) Regiment.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.

Blyton, William H. Enlisted at Sparta January 23, 1862, in Company "C," Nineteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, appointed post quartermaster sergeant at Camp Randall May 14, 1862; regimental commissary sergeant July 1, 1862; regimental quartermaster sergeant November 14, 1862; commissioned first lieutenant October 21, 1864, assigned to Second United States Infantry; November 11, 1864; commission approved by the President; mustered in as first lieutenant and regimental quartermaster, quartermaster department, United States army. Mustered out at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., June 20, 1866, as first lieutenant and regimental quartermaster, Fourth Regiment, United States Infantry.

Blake, Albert H., Sparta. Mustered into the service with the rank of first lieutenant of Company "F," Twentieth Infantry, August 18, 1862; was wounded at Prairie Grove; resigned June 10, 1865.

Chase, Myron P., Sparta. Enlisted April 25, 1861, in Company "I," Fourth Cavalry; was promoted to sergeant and commissionary sergeant; was commissioned second lieutenant of the same company June 24, 1863, and was wounded October 10, 1864; resigned his commission April 28, 1865.

Driggs, Jobe S., Glendale. Enlisted May 10, 1861, in Company "I," Sixth Infantry; was promoted to sergeant in the Veteran Corps; was transferred to Battery "B," Fourth United States Artillery, September 21, 1862, where he remained until February, 1864; was wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness; promoted to second lieutenant of Company "H," Forty-eighth Infantry, February 24, 1865; commissioned first lieutenant October 28, 1865; was mustered out of the service December 27, 1865.

Farnaham, Charles S., Sparta. Mustered into the service as second lieutenant of Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, September 9, 1862; was wounded July 22, 1864, at Decatur, Ga.; acted as assistant inspector general, First Brigade, Second Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, from September 26, 1864, until June, 1865; was mustered out June 7, 1865.

Foote, Oscar E., Tomah. Was mustered into the service as first lieutenant of Company "H," Tenth Infantry, September 11, 1861; he resigned his commission October 5, 1861; he entered the service again, being commissioned as second lieutenant of Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry, September 9, 1862; died of disease at Helena, Ark., August 9, 1863.

Frisby, William R. V., Sparta. Enlisted January 7, 1862, in Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry; promoted to sergeant and first sergeant; was commissioned second lieutenant July 30, 1862; resigned December 11, 1864.

Johnson, Chester W., Little Falls. Enlisted February 10, 1864, in Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry; was promoted to corporal and sergeant; was wounded August 14, 1864; commissioned first lieutenant July 22, 1865, but not mustered; was mustered out of the service July 12, 1865.

Lynn, James H., Sparta. Enlisted March 4, 1862, in Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, and was transferred to Veteran Corps; promoted to sergeant and first sergeant; commissioned first lieutenant July 11, 1865, but not mustered. He was mustered out of the service August 9, 1865.

Noyes, Luther B., Sparta. Was mustered into the service as first lieutenant of Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, March 4, 1864; was wounded at Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864; on account of wounds he was discharged September 28, 1864.

Pike, Anson A., Sparta. Mustered into the service as first lieutenant of Company "I," Forty-ninth Infantry, February 24, 1865; resigned his command May 27, 1865.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

Avery, Ralph H., Lincoln. Enlisted in Company "I," Forty-ninth Infantry, February 21, 1865; was promoted to first sergeant; was commissioned second lieutenant of the same company June 17, 1865; mustered out of the service November 8, 1865.

Baxter, Walter, Glendale. Enlisted in Company "A," Fiftieth Infantry, February 22, 1865; was promoted to corporal, sergeant and first sergeant; commissioned second lieutenant June 18, 1866, not mustered. He was mustered out of the service June 12, 1866.

Carnahan, Archibald, Sparta. Enlisted in Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, February 24, 1864; promoted to sergeant and first sergeant; was taken prisoner at Rean's Station; commissioned as second lieutenant April 18, 1865, not mustered. He was mustered out of the service June 10, 1865.

Ellis, George M., Sheldon. Enlisted in Company "A," Third Cavalry, November 2, 1861; promoted to corporal, sergeant and first sergeant; commissioned second lieutenant of the same company March 9, 1863. Mustered out of the service January 30, 1865.

Erickson, Martin A., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "H," Fifteenth Infantry, October 22, 1861; promoted to first sergeant; was

made sergeant major of the regiment January 1, 1863; was commissioned second lieutenant of Company "H," Fifteenth Infantry, May 21, 1863. He was taken prisoner at Chicamauga; was mustered out of the service April 20, 1865.

Hicks, Henry A., Glendale. Enlisted October 28, 1861, in the Tenth Battery, Light Artillery; promoted to sergeant; was commissioned junior second lieutenant March 3, 1862; was transferred to the Ninth Battery, Light Artillery, March 29, 1862, and commissioned senior second lieutenant October 21, 1863; he was mustered out of the service January 26, 1865.

High, Andrew D., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "I," Twenty-fifth Infantry, August 5, 1862; promoted to first sergeant; was commissioned second lieutenant of the same company July 16, 1863, and was mustered out of the service June 7, 1865.

Hill, Eber B., Sparta. Enlisted January 7, 1862, in Company "C," Ninteenth Infantry; promoted to sergeant and first sergeant; was taken prisoner October 27, 1864; commissioned lieutenant of the same company January 14, 1865, not mustered. He was mustered out of the service May 15, 1865.

McMillan, William F., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "A," third corporal September 30, 1861; was promoted to corporal and sergeant; when the regiment was reorganized he was transferred to Company "K" March 3, 1865; promoted to veterinary sergeant and first sergeant; mustered out September 27, 1865; was commissioned second lieutenant October 11, 1865, not mustered.

Phillips, William J., Sparta. Enlisted in Company "A," first Cavalry, August 15, 1861; commissioned second lieutenant of same company September 2, 1861; died May 2, 1862, of wounds received at Chalk Bluffs, Ark.

West, Ansyl A., Sparta. Enlisted April 20, 1861, in Company "I," Fourth Cavalry; commissioned second lieutenant of the same company April 26, 1861; resigned December 6, 1861.

Davis, John, Leon. Enlisted in Company "A," Third Cavalry, October 21, 1861; commissioned second lieutenant September 6, 1862; mustered out January 30, 1865.

SURGEONS.

Bennett, Rouse, Tomah. Was mustered into the service as first assistant surgeon of the Fifty-first Infantry February 24, 1865; was mustered out of the service April 26, 1865.

Gage, Martin R., Sparta. Mustered into the service as surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Infantry August 4, 1862; resigned on account of disability June 15, 1864.

CHAPLAINS.

DeLaney, James, Sparta. Mustered into the service as chaplain of the Eighteenth Infantry March 10, 1862; resigned July 14, 1862.

Hawes, Lewis, M., Sparta. Enlisted as a private in Company "E," Thirty-seventh Infantry, March 31, 1864; promoted to chaplain of the regiment July 28, 1864; resigned April 18, 1865.

Phillips, Enos M., Sparta. Mustered into the service as chaplain of the First Regiment of Cavalry December 10, 1862, and resigned September 26, 1863.

CHAPTER XIV.

THOSE WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE.

The roster, which follows, is taken from the adjutant general's report for 1865 and also from the roster of Wisconsin troops, published by authority of the Legislature; in every instance the place is given where the soldier lost his life, either by reason of being killed in action, dying of disease or wounds or accident, together with the date of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION.

Officers.

John W. Lynn, captain, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, on gunboat Tyler, July 15, 1862.

William J. Phillips, second lieutenant, Company "A," First Cavalry, Chalk Bluff, Ark., August 3, 1863.

ENLISTED MEN.

Broughton, Lanson I., private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Vicksburg, Miss., May 22, 1863.

Broughton, Lewis M., private, Company "I," Sixth Infantry, Gettysburg, Pa., June, 1864.

Campbell, George, private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Cornith, Miss., October 8, 1862.

Cole, Darwin, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Cleaves, Corydon, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Cummings, David, private, Company "K," Sixth Infantry, Antietem, Md., September 17, 1862.

Davis, Josiah, private, Company "A," Third Cavalry, Osage, Nev., August 31, 1863.

Douglas, David, private, Company "C," Sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Green, Chester A., first sergeant, Company "I," Sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Gibbs, Albert, private, Company "K," Tenth Infantry, Chaplin Hills, Ky., October 8, 1862.

Gallagher, Thomas W., sergeant, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 26, 1864.

Harland, John, private, Company "D," Sixth Infantry, Gettysburg, Pa., July 1, 1863.

Haywood, Joel, private, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Perrysville, Ky., October 8, 1862.

Huntley, Jabez L., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Decatur, Ga., July 22, 1864.

Hancock, William D., private, Company "K," Sixth Infantry, Salesburg, N. C., November 27, 1864.

Hicks, Addison, corporal, Company "F," Twentieth Infantry, Prairie Grove, Ark., December 6, 1862.

Ingles, Augustus B., private, Company "C," Sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Morse, Anthony, private, Company "F," Sixteenth Infantry, Shiloh, Tenn., April 6, 1862.

McClure, Charles, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Murray, Christopher, corporal, Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, Fair Oaks, Va., October 27, 1864.

Palmer, Sylvester C., private, Company "F," Sixteenth Infantry, Shiloh, Tenn., April 6, 1862.

Revels, William J., private, Company "K," Sixth Infantry, Weldon R. R., Va., August 19, 1864.

Stegman, Conrad, private, Company "G," Third Cavalry, Baxter Springs, (? ?), October 6, 1863.

Stewart, Milton H., private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Shiloh, Tenn., April 6, 1862.

Stewart, James, private, Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, Fair Oaks, Va., October 27, 1864.

Sherwin, Bissell, private, Company "D," Nineteenth Infantry, Fair Oaks, Va., October 27, 1864.

Walker, Perry C., private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

Officers.

Levi R. Blake, captain, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Baton Rouge, La., June 10, 1863.

Enlisted Men.

Brown, Hutson, private, Company "C," Sixth Infantry, Washington, D. C., August 24, 1864.

Casner, Thomas, private, Company "C," Sixth Infantry, Washington, D. C., August 14, 1864.

Cressy, Henry W., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Decatur, Ga., June 22, 1864.

Chandler, Jeremiah, private, Company "A," Twentieth Infantry, Fayetteville, Ark., December 31, 1862.

Dunlevy, Thomas, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Decatur, Ga., July 23, 1864.

House, Phileman P., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Atlanta, Ga., August 7, 1864.

Rathbun, Eldredge, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Washington, D. C., June 9, 1864.

Robbins, George, private, Company "I," Sixth Infantry, Georgetown, D. C., September 21, 1862.

DIED OF ACCIDENT.

Briggs, Charles, private, Company "A," Third Cavalry, Northwestern Railway, Ill., March 26, 1862.

Davis, William, private, Company "A," Third Cavalry, Northwestern Railway, Ill., March 26, 1862.

Hull, Edward, private, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Rilay House, Md., August 25, 1861.

Rawson, Lucian M., private, Company "A," Third Cavalry Northwestern Railway, Ill., March 26, 1862.

DIED OF DISEASE.

Ables, Henry, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., April 26, 1863.

Alger, Thomas, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., December 16, 1863.

Batis, Mathias, private, Company "A," Fourth Cavalry, Morganzie, La., July 25, 1864.

Bush, William J., sergeant, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Carrolton, La., November 8, 1862.

Brigham, John M., corporal, Company "I," Sixth Infantry, Camp Lyon, D. C., October 2, 1861.

Birdsill, George, private, Company "F," Sixteenth Infantry, Corinth, Miss., July 1, 1862.

Brown, Jesse, private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Vicksburg, Miss., September 24, 1863.

Boyle, Peter, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Andersonville, Ga., September 4, 1864.

Barnes, Alfred O., private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Madison, Wis., April 10, 1864.

Britton, Daniel A., private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Annapolis, Md., March 26, 1865.

Crouch, Hiram J., private, Company "H," First Cavalry, Madison, Wis., April 5, 1864.

Cottwill, Stephen, private, Company "H," Sixth Infantry, Point Lookout, Md., March 4, 1864.

Corey, Phillips, private, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Cowan Station, Tenn., August 3, 1863.

Claigg, Hospild, private, Company "B," Sixteenth Infantry, Rome, Ga., July 27, 1864.

Comstock, Ambrose L., private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Corinth, Miss., August 2, 1862.

Cottingar, John, private, Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, Salisburg, N. C., January 24, 1865.

Chatterton, Jefferson, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, St. Louis, Mo., January 1, 1864.

Chadwick, James, private, Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Rome, Ga., September 3, 1864.

Conger, Lewis B., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, hospital boat, July 29, 1863.

Cressy, Warren P., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Cairo, Ill., September 6, 1863.

Cross, George C., first sergeant, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Madison, Wis., May 13, 1864.

Deyotell, John, private, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Bacon Creek, Ky., February 23, 1862.

Dustin, John P., private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, May 21, 1862.

Degotell, William, private, Company "F," Nineteenth Infantry, Springfield, Mo., January 1, 1863.

Day, Henry, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Mankato, Minn., November 22, 1862.

Demmon, Ira P., corporal, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Chersaw, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Depen, Wiley, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, drowned Dallas, Ga., January 1, 1864.

Davis, Joseph, private, Company "E," Forty-third Infantry, Louisville, Ky., June 15, 1865.

David, Theron, private, Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn., September 9, 1863.

Dell, Edward, private, Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn., September 9, 1863.

Eschner, Phileman, private, Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Vicksburg, Miss., March 9, 1864.

Edgerton, Henry L., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Greenfield, Mo., December 6, 1864.

Edgerton, Charles L., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., August 19, 1863.

Eastman, Lemuel, private, Company "F," Twentieth Infantry, Springfield, Mo., June 9, 1863.

Freeman, Select, private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, date and place unknown.

Fitch, Irwin N., private, Company "I," Forty-ninth Infantry, Madison, Wis., March 27, 1865.

Gorman, Aaron H., private, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Bowling Green, Ky., March 31, 1862.

Gugerty, William A., private, Company "E," Eleventh Infantry, Brashear City, La., July 15, 1864.

Gleason, George, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., August 19, 1863.

Godbould, David, private, Company "F," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Rome, Ga., August 27, 1864.

Graves, Nathan, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Salisbury, N. C., December 18, 1864.

Hill, Jacob, private, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Carrolton, La., November 5, 1862.

Hill, Oscar A., corporal, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Jefferson Barracks, Mo., December 20, 1862.

Hutchins, Sylvester, pivate, Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, Alexander, Va., July 16, 1862.

Harman, John A., corporal, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., September 30, 1863.

Harp, George F., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Winship Furnace, Ga., June 16, 1864.

Holgate, Francis, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Snyders Bluff, Miss., June 15, 1863.

Hollenbeck, Amos J., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Andersonville, Ga., August 4, 1864.

Hyde, Alfred, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn., September 15, 1863.

Hathaway, Henry, private, Company "C," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Salisbury, N. C., November 27, 1864.

Justice, John, sergeant, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., August 15, 1863.

Jewell, Isaac, private, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Carrolton, La., September 28, 1862.

Knight, Charles A., private, Company "A," Fourth Cavalry, Whitewater, Wis., November 28, 1864.

Kinney, William P., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Vicksburg, Miss., February 22, 1864.

Love, Job, private, Company "G," Tenth Infantry, Murfreesboro, Tenn., September 6, 1861.

Lyman, Jeremiah, private, Company "C," Sixteenth Infantry, Vicksburg, Miss., August 10, 1863.

Murphy, William, private, First Battery Light Artillery, Youngs Point, La., February 26, 1863.

Merriam, Enos S., private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Grand Junction, Tenn., December 4, 1862.

McPheters, Alexander, private, Company "C," Nineteenth Infantry, Portsmouth, Va., October 3, 1862.

Miller, Alexander, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Rome, Ga., October 10, 1864.

Mills, Elias, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Paducah, Ky., August 18, 1863.

Mills, Eli, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Hospital Boat, July 25, 1863.

Minor, Wm. H., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Paducah, Ky., October 9, 1863.

Morrison, Wm. A., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Goldsboro, N. C., April 1, 1865.

Musgrave, Wm. P., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Snyder's Bluff, Miss., July 23, 1863.

Mero, Fredrick, private, Company "E," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Hospital Boat, July 28, 1863.

Nichols, Edward, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Salisbury, N. C., November 27, 1864.

Owens, Lewis E., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., September 10, 1863.

Rottenstetter, Simeon, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., October 27, 1863.

Randless, James W., private, First Battery, Light Artillery, Young's Point, La., March 9, 1863.

Rogers, Jacob, private, Company "H," Twelfth Infantry, Nashville, Tenn., February 5, 1865.

Rathbun, Dewey, private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, Leon, Wis., March 26, 1862.

Smith, Gilbert, private, First Battery, Light Artillery, New Orleans, La., August 3, 1864.

Spooner, Edward J., private, Company "E," Sixth Infantry, Arlington, Va., March 4, 1862.

Stanley, Lewis, private, Company "H," First Cavalry, Bowling Green, Ky., February 14, 1865.

Spooner, Charles W., private, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Annapolis, Md., May 10, 1864.

Seepry, Edward, private, Company "D," Eighteenth Infantry, St. Louis, Mo., June 8, 1862.

Sanderlin, Isaac S., private, Company "K," Eighteenth Infantry, Annapolis, Md., April 3, 1864.

Sawyer, Peter E., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Helena, Ark., October 27, 1863.

Shaw, Wm. F., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn., April 17, 1863.

Snow, George M., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Louisville, Ky., June 9, 1864.

Sour, Cyrus, private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Madison, Wis., April 17, 1864.

Stevens, John E., private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Salisbury, N. C., November 28, 1864.

Stranthan, Rodolphus A., private, Company "I," Forty-ninth Infantry, Rollo, Mo., March 25, 1865.

Teed, Truman, corporal, Company "C," Sixteenth Infantry, Providence, La., July 6, 1863.

Thompson, James W., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Paducah, Ky., August 26, 1863.

Thomson, Allen, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, St. Louis, Mo., October 15, 1863.

Ustick, Jacob Y., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Paducah, Ky., August 30, 1863.

Vaughan, George W., private, Company "G," Nineteenth Infantry, Yorktown, Va., August 14, 1863.

Weaver, Hiram O., private, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Andersonville, Ga., July 4, 1861.

Winegar, William, private, Company "F," Sixteenth Infantry, Keokuk, Ia., July 30, 1862.

Wilcox, Martin, private, Company "H," Sixteenth Infantry, Rome, Ga., August 28, 1864.

Wilson, Addison, private, Company "G," Nineteenth Infantry, Racine, Wis., May 16, 1862.

Wolcott, George L., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn., October 11, 1862.

Worden, Samuel, private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Marietta, Ga., September 16, 1864.

Wolcot, Jerome B., private, Company "C," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Madison, Wis., April 6, 1864.

Yomans, Wm. H., private, Company "D," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn., September 17, 1863.

MISSING.

Conway, Thomas, private, Company "K," Sixth Infantry, at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.

CHAPTER XV.

HENRY W. CRESSY POST No. 42, G. A. R.

BY E. M. COWLES, ADJ.

In the summer of 1882 some fifteen or more of the ex-soldiers made application to Grand Army headquarters, department of Wisconsin, to muster a post of the G. A. R. at Tomah, Monroe county, Wisconsin.

The department commander approving of such application the mustering officer detailed Commander James Davidson, of John W. Lynn post of Sparta, to go to Tomah with such comrades as he needed and muster Henry W. Cressy Post No. 42. Commander Davidson detailed Comrade J. E. Perry as officer of the day; Comrade Kerrigan, as S. V.; C. Whetstein, as J. V. C. All of said comrades being members of John W. Lynn post of the G. A. R.

Said detail visited Tomah on the afternoon of August 26, 1882, and at 7:30 o'clock, at the Fireman's hall, proceeded to muster Henry W. Cressy post with the following comrades charter members:

J. B. Adams, Company "B," One Hundred and Fourth Infantry, Pennsylvania; C. A. Adams, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Wisconsin; William Alexander, Company "C," Eleventh Infantry, Wisconsin; W. N. Alverson, Company "K," Twenty-fourth Infantry, New York; E. L. Bolton, Company "E," Seventeenth Infantry, Wisconsin; H. S. Beardsley, Company "E," Twelfth Infantry, Wisconsin; A. D. Benjamin, Company "B," Second Cavalry, Ohio; W. T. Bristol, Company "E," Fourteenth Infantry, Michigan; J. H. Beardsley, Company "A," Thirty-eighth Infantry, Wisconsin; D. F. Crandall, Company "B," Fortieth Infantry, Wisconsin; E. L. Craig, Company "I," First Infantry, Wisconsin; W. H. Calkins, Company "I," Twenty-ninth Infantry, Wisconsin; C. A. Crawford, Company "K," Sixth Infantry, Wisconsin; C. K. Erwin, Company "E," Forty-fifth Infantry, Illinois; Charles Gilson, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Wisconsin; George Graham, Company "G," Thirty-seventh Infantry, Wisconsin; H. D. Hollenbeck, Company "A," Sixteenth

Infantry, Wisconsin; Fred Johnson, Company "A," Third Cavalry, Wisconsin; S. Armstrong, A. W. Alderman, John Burnham, E. L. Bolton, H. S. Beardsley, A. D. Benjamin, K. Bremer, C. F. Miller, E. N. Densmort, C. K. Erwin, P. Edner, W. R. Foote, M. Flint, J. Fairbanks, H. Fanning, I. Fitzsinger, H. Fish, John Fryer, William Garland, Sam Gasper, Charles Gilson, S. H. Griswold, George D. Hollenbeck, O. H. Hastings, H. D. Hollenbeck, Thomas Hancock, A. B. Hoover, E. W. Howard, S. A. Hudson, R. P. Hitchcock, A. E. Hollister, A. M. Hickox, A. Z. Herring, G. H. Humlin, J. T. Beers, George Boyington, D. H. Bon, D. W. Bigelow, H. O. Bigelow, A. G. Bernie, F. K. Brown, A. C. Brooks, H. Leffingwell, H. Lea, W. Liscomb, H. Miller, Thomas McCaul, Con. Merril, J. M. McCurdy, Z. M. Morse, William McLean, A. N. Maltbie, George Musson, J. McGinnis, E. B. Marvin, Z. G. Moore, S. F. Nice, R. Noble, G. Nelson, W. B. Naylor, F. Nuss, F. Noth, W. Olmstead, John Organ, William Plunket, R. Parker, S. Pokrand, George Persons, D. F. Cleveland, W. B. Cassels, N. Calkins, Z. H. Crossett, E. M. Cowles, William Curavo, G. H. Dobbins, J. M. Decker, A. E. Logan, A. W. Johnson, F. A. Thompson, W. D. Stannard, H. C. Spaulding, D. H. Spooner, A. L. Sherer, A. W. Sowle, O. T. Sowle, H. Street, M. Sherwood, S. Sutton, J. J. Silken, R. Toombs, D. Thompson, George M. Trowbridge, J. E. Underwood, I. Vandervort, C. Vandervort, J. Vandervort, M. Vandervort, E. Mistle, L. Vanvoorhes, Fred Wise, J. Wilson, J. Whitfield, William Ingham, F. Johnson, S. P. Janes, J. Jeffries, A. Jeffries, J. Kellogg, C. H. Kellogg, W. Kenyon, C. W. Kenyon, E. G. Kinnie, B. Kennedy, R. King, E. B. King, C. Keuhl, M. Larkin, C. E. Loomer, John Little, L. Leech, J. E. Perry, I. Perry, J. Prescott, J. Peterson, C. J. Aldin, J. C. Quimby, Thomas Reikie, M. Robertson, N. R. Richardson, O. Root, William Ramsey, G. B. Robinson, D. P. Rockwood, L. Richards, B. Rhodes, H. Rogga, Con. Sullivan, L. Sweet, L. D. Wyatt, Jacob Wells, J. A. Wells, H. C. Walrath, George Waltenburg, W. H. Wright, J. G. Williams, E. Winnie, A. D. Woodruff, George Walker, G. Woodard, C. G. Walker, B. Durham, D. R. Jones, L. E. Vanloon, E. A. Crocker, W. H. Burlin.

ROLL OF HONOR—DEATHS.

C. J. Alden, A. W. Alderman, C. A. Crawford, A. D. Benjamin, N. Cary, G. H. Dobbins, I. Fitzsinger, H. Fish, William Garland, Charles Gilson, H. Getman, A. Getman, H. Galloway, S. H. Griswold, R. P. Hitchcock, R. King, E. G. Kinnie, C. Bohn,

Charles Bremer, W. T. Bristol, A. G. Bernie, D. F. Cleveland, C. K. Erwin, A. Herring, J. H. Kellogg, W. Kenyon, C. W. Kenyon, John Little, L. Leech, W. Liscomb, C. Keuhl, H. Leffingwell, F. Nass, F. Noth, G. S. Prescott, R. E. Bramen, George Boyington, D. W. Bigelow, H. O. Bigelow, William Curavo, H. Fanning, W. McLean, S. F. Nice, R. Noble, W. B. Naylor, C. H. Kellogg, Company "K," Forty-third Infantry, Wisconsin; Thomas McCaul, Company "G," First Infantry, United States; C. W. Merril, Company "B," Second Cavalry, Colorado; S. F. Nice, Company "C," Twenty-fifth Infantry, Wisconsin; John Organ, Company "D," Twenty-eighth Infantry, Wisconsin; George Robinson, Company "B," Thirteenth Infantry, Illinois; Cornelius Sullivan, United States steamer Tuscarora; W. D. Stannard, Company "F," Second Cavalry, Michigan; H. C. Spaulding, Company "H," Tenth Infantry, Wisconsin; J. A. Wells, Company "A," Twenty-third Infantry, Wisconsin; Jacob Wells, Company "D," Thirty-sixth Infantry, Ohio; H. C. Walwath, Company "I," Fourth Cavalry, Wisconsin; L. D. Wyatt, Company "A," First Cavalry, Wisconsin.

The officers elected and installed at the first meeting, August 26, 1882, were: Commander, C. K. Erwin; S. V. C., George Graham; J. V. C., E. L. Bolton; Q. M., J. A. Wells; surgeon, W. D. Stannard; chaplain, H. S. Beardsley; O. D., H. C. Spaulding; O. G., Thomas McCaul; adjutant, George Robinson; S. M., J. B. Adams; Q. M. S., William Alexander; sentinels, Jacob Wells and John Organ.

ROSTER OF MEMBERS.

J. B. Adams, C. A. Adams, William Alexander, W. N. Alverson, O. V. Auton, M. C. Alton, C. Bohn, W. T. Bristol, J. H. Beardsley, C. C. Boomer, R. E. Braman, John Brecker, D. F. Crandall, E. L. Craig, W. H. Calkins, C. A. Crawford, H. Campbell, N. Cary, A. N. Hickox, H. C. Spaulding, R. Toombs, E. Winnie, C. A. Adams, E. L. Bolton, J. H. Crossett, W. H. Foote, E. N. Griswold, E. W. Howard, N. Calkins, M. Flint, I. Perry, B. Rhodes, O. Root, H. Miller, Con. Merril, J. M. McCurdy, D. H. Spooner, D. Thompson, A. D. Woodruff, W. N. Alverson, H. S. Beardsley, John Fryer, B. Kennedy, A. W. Sowle, O. T. Sowle, Sam Sutton, Con. Sullivan, John Organ, William Plunkett, George Persons, M. Robertson, G. B. Robinson, L. Richards, H. Rogga, George Waltenberg, D. B. Bon, C. G. Walker, John Whitfield, Z. E. Underwood, J. G. Williams, G. Woodard.

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.

M. C. Alton, J. Burnham, J. H. Beardsley, C. C. Boomer, W. B. Cassels, E. M. Cowles, B. Durham, E. A. Crocker, George Graham, O. H. Hastings, L. Sweet, C. Vandervort, L. Van Voorhes, L. D. Wyatt, Thomas Hancock, A. B. Hoover, D. R. Jones, S. P. Janes, C. H. Kellogg, A. E. Logan, M. Larkin, C. E. Loomer, H. Lea, George M. Trowbridge, J. Vandervort, L. E. Vanloon, J. A. Wells, V. Mistle, C. F. Miller, Thomas McCaul, A. N. Maltbie, R. Parker, S. Pokrand, J. Peterson, Thomas Reikie, D. P. Rockwood, I. Vandervort, M. Vandervort, F. Wise, George Walker.

PRESENT OFFICERS.

Commander, J. R. Burnham; S. V. C., C. H. Kellogg; J. V. C., B. Durham; surgeon, Thomas Reikie; chaplain, Robert Parker; adjutant, E. M. Cowles; Q. M., D. P. Rockwood; P. I., George Graham; O. D., E. A. Crocker; O. G., C. Vandervort; S. M., W. B. Cassels; Q. M. S., A. N. Maltby; delegate, C. H. Kellogg; alternate, W. B. Cassels; trustee, Robert Parker; color bearer, George Trowbridge.

The post has a present membership of forty, and as the years roll on its members are growing steadily less, and the value of its associations greater to the comrades.

ALBERT E. HOLLISTER.

The following paper was read by Mr. Hollister before the Henry W. Cressy post, February 11, 1888:

"I was born May 26, 1845, in the county of Livingston, state of New York. My parents moved to Cass county, Michigan, when I was three years old. I lived on a farm until I enlisted. In August, 1862, I enlisted in Company A, Nineteenth Michigan Infantry. Being only seventeen, my father demanded my release of the captain who enlisted me, which was readily granted. Among the number of our neighborhood was a cousin whom I will call Frank. We had been brought up together and had enlisted together, and I did not want to go home unless Frank did. So, rather than go home, I hired out to work on a farm. After working for a few days I took a 'lay-off' to visit camp and see the boys. After thinking the matter over I came to the conclusion that I was not to blame for being too young, and as I was older than Frank was, I would not stay at home and let him go. After staying around camp awhile, I offered myself, but the captain who enlisted me before, and in whose company Frank was, would not

take me again. We soon found a lieutenant whose company was not full and I offered myself. He asked my age and I told him eighteen. He told me to go with him up to the captain's office. The first inquiry of the captain was, 'How old are you?' 'Eighteen, sir,' was my answer. 'When will you be eighteen?' was his next question. 'Last May, sir,' was my reply. 'I don't believe it,' he said. Here Frank thought he would help me a little and said to the captain, 'He is older than I am.' 'Were you there when he was born?' asked the captain. As I was ten weeks older than Frank he had to admit he was not there.

"After a short consultation with the lieutenant, he concluded to take me, and accordingly I was enlisted in Company H and assigned to quarters. The only incident for some time in which I was in any way more interested than the rest of the boys happened about two weeks after my enlistment. An acquaintance of mine came into camp one day and picked up my gun. After looking at it a moment he made a motion as if to stick the bayonet into my foot. I thought he would not strike and stood still. He thought I would jump and struck. Then I jumped. I was mad and he was badly frightened. 'My G—!' he exclaimed, 'I thought you would jump. Take off your shoe.' Taking off my shoe I found my foot bleeding, but not seriously injured. My father, hearing that I had been gone for some time from where he supposed I was, came to camp to look for me, but after finding that I had enlisted as eighteen, and as he thought that I was unwilling to leave, went home and left me. In a few days we were mustered into the United States service.

"After we broke ranks and went to our quarters I went to see Frank. He was but seventeen and could not be mustered. I was in a fix. I did not want to go unless Frank went. He tried another company but they would not take him. What would I do? I thought of a number of ways to get out, but did not want to be laughed at. All Frank could do was to go home. All I could do was to stay. I thought I would stick to it as it was my fault that I was so old. That night I could not sleep. The next day I did not see anything around camp to interest me. I felt pretty sober. In a week I did not have a grain of sand left. The first time my father came to see me I told him I would go home with him if he could get me out. He went to the colonel and was referred to the mustering officer. That official said they could not hold me if my parents objected to my going. The colonel swore at me for making so much trouble until the mustering officer told him to stop, as hundreds of boys were doing that

every day. Men were more willing to enlist at that time than a year or so later, or I could not have got out of my scrape as easily as I did. I went home. I had been a soldier long enough, so I thought at that time.

"I stayed at home about a year. My regiment, or the regiment in which I had enlisted, had all been captured, and we would occasionally hear where they were. They finally brought up in Libby prison. Soon they were paroled and some of them came on what they called 'French furlough.' After listening to their accounts of the battle in which they were captured and bidding them good-bye as they started back after being exchanged, I began to feel more patriotic. Soon the Ninth Michigan cavalry began recruiting in our neighborhood. I concluded to go. I went to see Frank. He would go, but not in the cavalry. He said if I would go as a recruit in the Nineteenth, himself, Deacon Grinnell and Rev. Gilbert would go with me. In February, 1864, we all enlisted and were sent to Camp Blair, at Jackson, Michigan. Here Frank had the measles, which was the cause of his never doing any active service. While there I, among others, was detailed to cook for the men in barracks No. 4. While acting in that capacity the Rev. Gilbert and myself, through a misunderstanding of facts on the part of the officer of the day, were arrested and confined in the guard-house, leaving no one to get supper for the boys. By morning there had been men detailed to take our places, and about 10:00 o'clock they brought us our breakfast. About noon we were taken out under guard and put to work scrubbing offices and privies until about 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon, when we were released and returned to our quarters.

"May 13 we were sent South. On our way we made short stops at Louisville, Nashville, Chattanooga and Kingston. From Chattanooga to Kingston we were obliged to ride on top of box cars. At the latter place we found everything in confusion. The rebel General Wheeler had made a raid and killed several negroes and one or two soldiers. My three companions were sick and lay down in an old barn. I was ordered to assist in hauling a couple of pieces of artillery to an elevation north of town. Returning to my companions I found them as I had left them. Toward night Frank went with the other two to the hospital. Just after dark he returned and said he would go to the regiment if he did not live a day after he got there; but by the next morning he was sick enough to go to the hospital without being urged. He had caught cold and the measles had settled on his lungs. I was

alone again. I had to go on further South and they returned North. I was in excellent health and spirits and did not get homesick again. When I started for the front I had a knapsack well filled with what I supposed were necessary articles. I had not marched more than half a day when I threw away my overcoat. Before night I left my blacking-brush, looking-glass, etc., on the corner of the fence. The next morning I changed underclothing, and threw away what I took off. Before noon we heard the boom of artillery, and it was not the Fourth of July either. In the afternoon we could hear the musketry. Soon we came to a hospital and here I found one of Company K, of my regiment, who was wounded in the calf of the leg. I gave him my blanket and went on. The artillery was pounding away, but infantry was quiet most of the time. I got to the regiment just before night. Soon the 'Johnnies' made a charge, but were repulsed. Here I was, on my nineteenth birthday, under fire for the first time. Comrades, most of you know how I felt. We were lying behind the line of light earthworks. During the night the enemy made another assault but were repulsed. I was asleep when the first volley was fired. Which side fired first I do not know. I sprang to my feet and looked around. To the left was one continuous blaze. Around me I could hear the zip and whizz of bullets. I could see the smallest twigs on the trees. I was so confounded or frightened I did not know enough to lie down. It was not long before I could lie down as close to the ground as anyone, and lie down quick. I would rather lie down a half dozen times when it was not necessary than to miss once when it was. I never could get over the habit of dodging when I heard the whizz of a ball.

"June 15 found us near Lost Mountain, Georgia. Just after noon we were ordered to support the First Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Corps, in an assault upon the enemy's works. The First brigade made the attack just as we moved out across a field. They were in the woods. The heavy clouds of smoke were rolling up among the trees and as we advanced the wounded began to come to the rear. It seemed as though the smoke was full of wounded men. There was no wind and the smoke did not move off. Soon we were in the woods. There was a battery in front of us that had been firing all the forenoon, and as we were to support a brigade I concluded we were moving to the support of the battery. We were ordered to lie down. By this time it was dark. After lying down for a short time we were ordered forward. Imagine my feelings as we came into an opening and

found we were in front instead of the rear of the battery. We could look into the mouths of those guns at every discharge, and by the flash we could see their infantry standing behind the works. I was a recruit and not well posted in movements, but I don't think they knew where we were, for they were throwing their shells over our line and into a ravine some distance in our rear. We were not more than one-third the distance from them to where their shells were dropping. We lay down again in the rear of the First brigade. In a short time the line in our front rose upon their knees and waited until the discharge from the battery and all fired full at the gunners. Their infantry replied immediately but the artillery waited some little time. Their musketry made it unpleasant for us. The line in front of us rose up and went to the rear double quick. We had to take it. They had got our position. They poured shell and canister or grape (don't know which it was) into us. Our major was killed, the ball striking him in the breast. 'Oh, my wife and boys!' were his only words. Several privates were wounded. I could hear their comrades telling them to keep still and not let the 'sons of b—— know where to shoot.' Then a shell exploded in Company I and tore the limbs from the bodies of two sergeants, one of them dying in a few moments. I heard the other moaning and saying, 'Boys, I know it is no use to make a fuss, but I can't help it. Give me some water. Good-bye, boys. Kiss me, George. Good-bye.' All this time we were merely lying there for them to shoot at, we making no reply. It must have been midnight or after when things began to be more quiet and we were ordered to the left and rear, the order being given in a whisper. Soon we went to building works and were busy until it began to grow light. I had three pretty close calls within less than five minutes. Soon a comrade was shot by my side. When I heard the ball strike I looked up and saw him begin to reel and tremble. I threw my arms around him and helped him to lie down. Then we got a stretcher and undertook to carry him to a place of safety. We had not gone far before one of the men helping carry him was shot. We got behind some trees and went back. Soon one of my messmates was killed. Then we lost our lieutenant. The day before our company had thirteen men; now we had only nine. We were ordered to the rear and sent to guard supply trains. Our first trip was to Big Shanty, Georgia. We stayed three or four days and as we moved out with loaded wagons to return to camp we saw a division crossing the open level plain between Big Shanty and Kenesaw mountain. They advanced in splendid

order for some time. Occasionally a man would fall and be left behind. Soon they began to stoop forward and quicken their pace, and finally began to double-quick for the woods.

"About July 15 were were relieved by a detachment to the Thirty-third Massachusetts. Found our regiment on picket along the Chattahooche river. That night we moved with Sherman's advance and crossed the river on pontoons. We marched until near morning before we were permitted to lie down. It did not seem as though I could take another step. Some of the boys made coffee, but I spread my blanket and lay down.

"July 20 found us near Peach Tree creek, with things looking a little strange. We were called up about 2:00 o'clock and got ready to move. We would go a short distance and halt and then move on again. I noticed a number of orderlies in our front riding in every direction. I asked one of the boys of my company what was up. His reply was, 'We are going to catch h—— befor night; if your gun is not loaded you had better load it.' As we came to a halt again I noticed that about half of the men were loading their guns. As we came into an open field I could see the right of the Fourth corps already across the creek, and to their right the Twenty-second Wisconsin deployed as skirmishers. We crossed the creek, built shades and made coffee. Just as our dinner was about ready there was brisk firing in our front and our skirmishers fell back on the main line. We were ordered forward and just as Major Baker gave the order he clutched his thigh with both hands, threw up his leg and called Captain Anderson to take command. Before he let go of his leg the blood began to run between his fingers. It was but a flesh wound, but I never saw him again. 'Guide left, guide left,' was the order as we moved across the open field. As we came to the top of a ridge the 'Johnnies' opened on us from the ridge beyond. Several men went down close to me. My knees began to feel weak. Soon one of Company G was shot and tried to start for the rear, but fell in front of me. As he fell he gave one of the most blood-curdling shrieks I ever heard. It made my hair stand on end. I could feel the wind blow on top of my head, under my hat. My back was cold as ice; I shook all over. How I kept up I don't know, but as soon as we fired the first volley I had no more fear. I could see some of the boys turn their guns and club them. We would break them and they would reform and charge again. For some time all I could see of them were their legs below the smoke. I think it must have been at least two hours before they began to fall back as though they had got enough of it. The

comrade who told me in the morning what we were going to catch before night swung his hat and said, 'Let's go for them; come on!' Gaining the top of the ridge we could see them something like a half-mile away, forming as if to charge again. They would move out from the timber and then go back again. We could see the officers riding in front, but they did not come near us again, not even to look after their wounded. The next morning I took a look over the field. In three places I saw fifty-one, twenty-seven and thirty-two Confederate dead. Guns, sabers, cartridge boxes, canteens, etc., were scattered in every direction. Now let me describe scenes that would move the most hardened to tears. The first is a colonel with his horse lying near him. Next, a man with a gaping wound in his forehead, still alive, the brains oozing out and lying down over his eyes. Next, a dead man with a letter in his hand—the last kind words he will ever receive from the loved ones in his far-away home in Mississippi. Then several with Bibles in their hands. Knowing their hour had come, they had sought to obtain consolation and relief from their suffering from the word of God. The next was lying on his back, his cartridge-box under his head. In his hands he was holding the photograph of a woman and child. He had died gazing on the features of those who were as dear to him, and he to them, as any from our Northern homes. The thought would come to my mind: Did I fire the fatal shot that made a widow and an orphan? Perhaps; but this is war. This was the last battle in which I was actively engaged.

"August 19 I was near Atlanta. About 4:00 o'clock p. m., as I was getting some supper, I suddenly found myself trying to get up off the ground. This was the first notice I had that anything was wrong. I had no feeling, was in no pain, but knew I was shot. I tried several times to rise, but would fall back. I gave it up. I could hardly get my breath. Soon I began to spit blood. Then the boys pointed to my breast. I saw my shirt bosom was covered with blood. I opened my shirt. I thought my time had come. 'My G——,' said one of the boys, 'see where it came out.' I asked him where. They told me I had been shot clear through. I began to feel faint and thought surely I was going to die. I wanted water every few minutes. I gave my watch to one of my comrades and asked him to send it home if he could. An ambulance came and I bade the boys good-bye, as I had heard many do before. I certainly never expected to see them or my home again. I was taken to the field hospital. The first question of the doctor was, 'Have you bled freely? If you have there is a fight-

ing chance for you. If you have bled internally I can't save you.' He called several men to his assistance and dressed my wound. Next morning as I woke up alive I began to have some hopes. The next day I felt quite encouraged, and, thanks to kind nurses, a strong constitution and good morals, after running the chances of gangrene and small-pox (both of which I was exposed to), and after having a run of lung fever, I am thankful to meet you, my comrades, here today."

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE WAR.

By Fred Noth.

I was born March 6, 1839, State of Lippe, Germany. At the age of twenty I emigrated to New Orleans in the fall of '59. Shortly after the election of Abraham Lincoln, preparations commenced for the war. Not willing to fight for slavery, I took passage on a steamboat to St. Louis. During May and June I served in a company of militia in St. Charles county to guard railroad bridges. On the 21st day of July, 1861, I enlisted in Company E. second Missouri Volunteer Infantry. I was appointed a sergeant and color bearer of the regiment. Part of our regiment was ordered to Potosie to guard the Iron Mountain Railroad, returning to St. Louis for mustering in September. The regiment in October was ordered to Jefferson City, Tipton and Sedalia. Returning to Tipton, preparations were made for a march to Springfield, Mo. Arriving at Springfield, the Fremont Hussars having the lead, they encountered the enemy, about 2,000 strong, and made a brilliant charge, scattering the enemy in all directions. Late in the fall we marched to Rolla, a station on the Pacific branch, for winter quarters. Early in February, '62, our march was again for Springfield. Two new two-pounder howitzers mounted on mules and used on the enemy's flank caused a great deal of fun. After a lively skirmish, General Price vacated Springfield and retreated to Fort Smith. Our army followed close after him, into Arkansas, going into camp at a place called Pea Ridge. Being 240 miles from railroad communication, our provision train failed to come in time. One ear of corn was issued for a ration for a day; next day orders for foraging were given. A place where about 500 bushels of apples were piled was found, and before night came none were left. My regiment was ordered to a flour mill in the corner of Indian Territory, or the so-called Oklahoma. Taking possession of the mill, we found about 400 bushels of good winter wheat and ten barrels of lard in a store.

About ten days later, one night at eleven o'clock, the bugle sounded, tents down, marching orders. The advance of the enemy was reported within one-half mile of our camp. Marching during the night we reached General Sigel at noon, at Bentonville, where we waited the approach of the rebels. Our regiment was ordered one mile further, there to await his orders, when all at once about 2,000 Texas Rangers stepped in between us and cut General Sigel off. The Rangers made an attack on my regiment, killing captain of Company A and a number of men. General Sigel with a battalion of Benton Hussars cut a gap through the Rangers and we all marched to the main part of the army, the rebels following close behind. Arriving at Sugar Creek valley, the rebel army was about 30,000 in number and was commanded by Generals McCollough and McIntosh. The battle of Pea Ridge began next morning. Our army, numbering about 14,000, was commanded by Generals Curtis, Sigel, Arboth and Jeff. C. Davis. The fighting on the 7th was mostly with musketry. The rebels had about 2,000 Indians on their side who were led on to a battery, but they soon retreated, yelling "Huh! huh! big gun." On the 8th at daybreak, our artillery commenced the fire. General Sigel was ordered to report to the Department of the Potomac. About three weeks later we came marching over the Ozark mountains to Cape Girardeau, crossing the Corinth and White rivers, Three and Five Forks and some other rivers. About half-way, on Sunday, we had a day of rest. An officer and some recruits had arrived and presented a new silk flag to my regiment from the German ladies of St. Louis. From this place part of our troops marched south in the direction of Island No. 10, while our brigade marched to Cape Girardeau. About a week later we embarked on steamboats down the Mississippi, up the Ohio and Tennessee rivers and landed at Pittsburg Landing. In marching over the battlefield of Shiloh to Corinth, General Halleck had a well organized army. After a little skirmish a few days later, the rebels during one night vacated Corinth. From there our brigade marched to Riance, Miss., where we remained during the summer. Early in September, 1862, we received orders to go to Cincinnati. Arriving at Cincinnati we marched to Market Hall. About a week later we embarked on steamboats for Louisville, where our army was reorganized by General Buell, and Philip Sheridan was assigned to the command of our First Division, Fourteenth Corps.

On the evening of October 7th, we arrived in front of Perryville. General Bragg had prepared for a battle. At sunrise on

the morning of the 8th, my regiment was ordered to make a charge on some Arkansas troops in double quick, and after about an hour of hard fighting, the rebels retreated. My regiment had lost twenty-three killed, including our major, and fifty-six wounded. In the afternoon General Hardy made an attack on our division, formed in line on a ridge in a half circle. The rebels were badly beaten in this fight. The most of them were left dead or wounded on the field. The next day General Bragg evacuated Perryville. As we marched on to Perryville we passed a stack of arms about a mile long. It appeared as if half of General Bragg's men had left for home. From here we marched to Nashville, passing Mammoth Cave. Fourteen miles south of Nashville we went into camp. Being on picket duty one day, thirty volunteers were called, officers and non-commissioned to ascertain the position of the rebel pickets three miles off. We reached them just at dark. A sergeant from my camp shot the rebel sentinel and at the same time he received a shot through the lungs and died the next morning. Some days later my regiment and a battery was ordered out on a scouting expedition. We encountered the enemy about five miles from camp. After a little skirmish the rebels retreated. In the latter part of December we marched for Murfreesboro. On the last day of December, early in the morning, when our artillery had taken their horses to water, General Longstreet unexpectedly attacked our Fourteenth Corps. Our right wing was entirely repulsed, hard fighting going on all day. As soon as we reached the railroad embankment Longstreet's forces were checked. The colonel commanding our brigade at this place was shot through the throat and died. The next day, January 1st, General Rosecrans pushed his left wing, the Twenty-first Corps, across Stone river and the rebels commenced to evacuate Murfreesboro. At the place where the fighting had commenced eighty comrades of our division were buried in one grave.

During the spring of 1863 Murfreesboro was fortified. A pioneer brigade had been organized, and I was detached to the Second Battalion, called the Pontoon Battalion. On the 25th day of June, 1863, our army commenced to march to the Tennessee river. General Rosecrans from here moved on to Chattanooga, remaining at Bridgeport some time. In October we moved on to Chattanooga over the Cumberland mountains. Just before we reached the mountain General Wheeler had destroyed a supply train of about 150 wagons. Arriving at Chattanooga we constructed another pontoon bridge. One day the rebel artillery sent

a fifty-pound shell into our camp from Lookout mountain, but it exploded high in the air. October 16th General Rosecrans was relieved of his command, and Gen. U. S. Grant took command. On the evening of November 22nd we were ordered to march on the north side of the Tennessee river, a distance of three miles. During the night we passed a brigade of Sherman's troops across the river. Early in the morning a pontoon bridge was laid for General Sherman to cross the Tennessee. About 10 o'clock the bridge was completed and the signal sergeant signaled to headquarters. General Sherman moved over the pontoon bridge and another corps from the Tennessee army started from Chattanooga and joined General Sherman in the afternoon. We returned to Chattanooga. In the evening a division of General Hooker's corps was moved down, partly on boats, to storm Lookout mountain during the night by moonlight. About 12 o'clock the firing ceased and Lookout was taken next day. General Sherman on the left, General Hooker on the right, and General Thomas in the center, the army of the Cumberland made a charge on Mission Ridge, and before night Mission was taken. Sixty-eight pieces of artillery and 11,000 prisoners, including two brigadier generals, were captured. Next day the rebel prisoners marched over the pontoon bridge to go north. As they formed into line on the north side of the river one of our bands of music played the "Star Spangled Banner." A hurrah for the Union followed from all the camps near by.

In December I and sixty other mechanics were sent to Nashville to make new canvas pontoon boats, returning to Chattanooga in March. On May 5, 1864, our army started for Dalton. On the 6th my battalion was ordered with our canvas pontoon train. Arriving at a river north of Resaca, on the right wing, a regiment of rebels were in a good position in a lot of heavy timber, disputing our right to cross the river. We crossed a battalion of sharpshooters to dislodge the rebels, and a number of our boys were killed and wounded. From here we marched with a division to Rome, Ga., on a point between two rivers. Crossing on a pontoon bridge we took possession of Rome. We crossed the Yazoo river on the south side, where on a little mountain the rebels had some fortifications, but as Johnson's army had fallen back to Atlanta by this time they evacuated the place and we marched on to Marietta and remained in camp at this place for some time. The latter part of June we were ordered back to Chattanooga. In July I, with my detachment, was ordered to Bridgeport, Ala., to take charge of a pontoon bridge, and we remained at this place until September 20, 1864.

The adjutant from our regiment ordered us to get ready to go to St. Louis to be mustered out. Arriving at St. Louis with about two hundred and twenty men left in our regiment, we marched to Washington hall. On the 29th day of September my regiment was mustered out on expiration of term.

I respectfully remain, FRED NOTH,
Sergt. Co. E, 2nd Mo. Vol. Inf.

CHAPTER XVI.

JOHN W. LYNN POST.

John W. Lynn Post No. 30, Department of Wisconsin, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized May 8, 1882, at Sparta, county of Monroe, and state of Wisconsin, with fifty-seven charter members as follows, to-wit:

James Davidson, fifty-seven years, old, formerly major of the Fifth New York cavalry, afterwards department commander of the Department of Wisconsin, and died at Wichita, Kansas, March 16, 1891, a native of the state of New York.

Samuel Hoyt, sixty-three years of age, served as sergeant of the First Wisconsin battery over four years, was honorably discharged and died at Sparta on the third day of June, 1898.

Edwin W. Olin was born in the state of New York; aged thirty-nine when the post was organized; served as first lieutenant of Company "E," One Hundred and Twenty-first regiment, New York infantry volunteers, and was finally mustered out at Sparta, Wis., on the 27th day of January, 1907. Was post commander and quartermaster.

L. C. Herrick was sixty-two years of age, was a private of Company "D," Eighteenth Wisconsin infantry, and passed out of this life on the 22nd day of May, 1898. Held the offices of chaplain and musician.

William H. Blyton had arrived at the age of thirty-nine years, born in New York state, served in Company "C," Nineteenth Wisconsin infantry, as quartermaster sergeant and as first lieutenant and quartermaster of the Fourth United States infantry. Has served in the post as post commander several terms and as adjutant and quartermaster.

Alonzo E. Howard was forty-four years of age, born in New York state, served in Company "A," Ninety-second New York as first sergeant and lieutenant, and in Company "K," Ninety-sixth New York infantry, as first lieutenant. Has held the offices of sergeant, major, adjutant and post commander.

Hugh T. Hogue was born in Pennsylvania, enlisted October 21st, 1861, in the Third Wisconsin cavalry, Company "A," served

three years and three months. Was a valued member of the post, always taking an active interest in its proceedings, but died in Big Creek, May 16, 1896.

Alfred Dunbar had reached the age of fifty-three years, a native of New York state, was a private of Company "C," Thirty-sixth Wisconsin infantry, the snare drummer of the post, a very active member on all memorial days, but departed this life on the 10th of September, 1903.

William Waste, forty-eight years old, was from New York state and was a member of Company "I," Twenty-third Ohio infantry; served four years and two months and was badly broken down on being discharged; died many years ago, but the date was not entered in the post records.

William Kerrigan, another New York state man, fifty-one years of age at the organization of the post; was a member of Company "C," Nineteenth Wisconsin infantry, serving about three years and six months, and during his membership in the post was its chief musician and fifer. Died June 29, 1897.

Charles A. Hunt, another New York boy, fifty-three years old at the organization of the post, was first lieutenant and captain, Company "K," Twenty-fifth Wisconsin infantry, was one of our strong and active members, adding strength and interest to the organization. He was finally mustered out at Melvina and his remains interred in the Melvina cemetery.

James E. Perry, forty-four years old, at the time a native of New York, served in the army from September 22, 1861, to June 23, 1865, as corporal of Company "I," Twenty-seventh Massachusetts infantry. Removed to Tomah and joined Henry W. Cressey post of that city.

George A. Fisk, captain of Company "C," Thirty-sixth Wisconsin infantry, was a gallant soldier and a good Grand Army man, but only remained with us to August 10, 1886, when he joined the majority.

George Graham, of Tomah, joined the post but commenced immediately to aid in the organization of the post at Tomah.

George W. Shepherd was a charter member and served in Company "C," of the Nineteenth Wisconsin infantry. He has passed the Dark river.

Sylvanus Holmes was born in New York and sixty-seven years old at the date of organization. He enlisted as private in Company "I," Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania infantry, and was mustered out a captain. He was one of the strong members and served as

senior vice commander and commander of the post, and moved beyond on the 3rd of January, 1895.

William J. Summerfield, forty-five years old, a charter member, was a sergeant in the First Wisconsin battery, serving from 1861 to 1865; was an active comrade for years, but on account of infirmities of age has withdrawn.

DeWitt C. Beebe, forty-four years old and a native of Vermont, was surgeon of the Fourth New York cavalry, served till the close of the war. Dr. Beebe was many years the surgeon of the post and held the office of post commander; one of the faithful members, but he passed over the river on the Fourth of July, 1908.

Ira A. Hill was forty years old, born in New Hampshire, and served as sergeant of Company "A," Nineteenth New Hampshire infantry. He was the first quartermaster of the post, was for many years one of its trustees, and served as post commander one term. Comrade Hill was always interested and did much to promote the welfare of the organization. He was mustered into the larger army beyond on the 20th day of March, 1904.

E. W. Robie was a native of Vermont, forty-four years old; served three years and two months in the Third Vermont infantry, a faithful Grand Army man, but died February 23, 1894.

M. J. McOmber, aged thirty-seven, was a native of New York, was adjutant of the post for two years, served in the Sixth Pennsylvania reserve corps, lost a leg at the battle of Gettysburg, died in Sparta on the 3rd of February, 1890.

Lucian A. McWithy, fifty years of age, was born in New York state, was an efficient member of the Third Wisconsin cavalry, Company "A," and though suffering from inability to see has been one of the most persistent and regular attendants at the post meetings.

John Burk, forty-four years old, was born in Ireland, but gave assurance that he was a faithful American citizen by serving the country three years and one month in the Tenth Wisconsin infantry, in Company "D," but he is with us no more.

John Winters, a native of Germany, was a member of Company "D," of the Eighteenth Wisconsin infantry, the service and his continuing to serve the state making good his claim on the nation.

William Shepherd did not furnish us his full record, but he was a member of Company "C," of the Nineteenth Wisconsin infantry, for many years a resident of the town of Angelo and one of its good citizens.

James O'Connor, forty-two years old, a native of New York state, served four years and three months in the Second Michigan

Infantry, Company "D," was for many years one of the best known citizens, but after removing from Sparta withdrew from the post.

Joseph Jones, a native of England, enlisted September 7, 1861, in Company "D," of the Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania infantry, and was mustered out December 24, 1864, thus proving his loyalty to his adopted country. He has joined the majority on the other side.

Franklin Campbell, aged thirty-eight, was a native of Wisconsin, was a member of the Tenth Wisconsin battery. He withdrew from the post after a few years and has since been reported dead.

Michael McPeak, forty-one years old, born in Ireland. His service was in Company "E," First Michigan volunteers; still residing in Sparta.

Chauncy Bunce, fifty-two years old, born in Connecticut, enlisted January 5, 1864, in the Twelfth Wisconsin infantry, Company "E," and was mustered out July 15, 1865, but on account of age and residence at a distance from the city withdrew after a time and he has passed to the other shore.

Charles Slaver, thirty-eight years of age, another acquisition from Germany, was a member of Company "I," Forty-eighth Wisconsin infantry, proved his right to citizenship by his patriotism.

Nathan B. Aldrich, a Vermonter, was forty-eight years old, was a member of Company "D," Twenty-fifth Wisconsin infantry, from August 8, 1862, to May 10, 1865; a good citizen of Sparta, but died July 22, 1902.

Joseph W. Potter, born in Ohio, was forty years old, was a corporal of Company "C," Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry, from February 29, 1864, to June 10, 1865. Served with the post as its bass drummer until disabled, and left us to be mustered in the new army March 2, 1910.

Edward J. Hodgkin enlisted July 2, 1861, in Company "I," Fourth Wisconsin infantry, and was mustered out July 18, 1865, a member of the First Wisconsin battery. He withdrew from the post as he resided too far out to meet with it, and has since left this life. He was born in New York and was thirty-nine years old at the organization of the post.

William J. Jordan was forty-one years old and served in the Fiftieth New York engineers from August 31, 1861, to June 13, 1865. He died on the 16th of March, 1891.

Adelbert E. Bleekman was a native of New York state, served

in the Fifth Ohio cavalry, Company "A." Was the post commander in 1883 and 1884. He removed to LaCrosse and became a member of the post there. A good Grand Army man and a successful attorney. He has gone to his reward for all the activities of an earnest life.

Bruce E. McCoy was fifty-one years old, born in New York state, and served as captain of Company —, Forty-third Wisconsin infantry from its muster in to the end of its term, and continues a valued member of the post.

Rufus S. Dodge served as sergeant of Company "K," Sixteenth New York infantry, during the entire term of its service, was a native of New York state. For many years he was trustee of the post and passed away July 31, 1908.

Ulrich Wettstein was thirty-four years old, a native of Germany, was a member of Company "C," Fifty-third Wisconsin infantry; has gone out but date is not recorded.

Charles A. Bunce was forty years old and a native of Connecticut. He served in Company "K," Eleventh Massachusetts infantry; was discharged at his own request.

Lucius M. Stevens, forty years old, a native of New York, was a member of Company "I," One Hundred and Fifty-sixth New York infantry, was post commander in 1885 and has removed to Minneapolis.

John W. Carter was a native of Ohio, a member of Company "D," Eighteenth Wisconsin infantry, was thirty-seven years old at his muster in the post, and was the first death after our organization.

William A. DeLong, thirty-nine years old, a native of New York state, was a corporal in Company "A," Third Wisconsin cavalry. He withdrew from the post.

Chauncy K. Kennedy, aged fifty-eight, a New Yorker by birth, was a member of Company "A," Nineteenth Wisconsin infantry, but he lived only a short time after joining the post.

John Jarrett, forty years old, a native of Pennsylvania. Service was in Company "D," Seventh Pennsylvania cavalry. He removed from the city and withdrew from the post.

Jeremiah Van Kirk, a native of New York state, was a member of Company "D," Twenty-fifth Wisconsin infantry, was thirty-seven years of age and is still with us.

E. Crocker, born in Ohio, was thirty-seven years old, a member of Company "D," Eighteenth Wisconsin infantry, was wounded and discharged. Has moved away and withdrawn from the post.

Henry T. Bell, a native of New York, served three years in Company "K," Seventh New York heavy artillery, has been an efficient officer of the day of the post, and is still doing duty with it.

Robert Rathbun did not furnish his war record and withdrew soon after joining.

W. H. Washburn was forty-one years old and a native of New York state, was a member of Company "C," Thirty-sixth Wisconsin infantry, was transferred to the George A. Fisk post at Cataract.

Walter A. Wodd, forty-three years old, a native of New York, was corporal of Company "A," Tenth Wisconsin infantry, serving four years. He removed to Oakland, California, and was transferred to a post in that city.

Byron M. Dunham was forty-one years old, born in Michigan, served in Company "D," Fourteenth Wisconsin infantry four years; died January 6, 1902.

William N. Wilcox furnished no record of service and withdrew after a short time.

S. F. Ketcham was thirty-six years of age, born in Pennsylvania, was a private in Company "L," Sixth New York heavy artillery, withdrew from the post soon after its organization.

Abram Heath, thirty-eight years old, born in New Hampshire, a member of Company "G," Twelfth Wisconsin infantry; remained a member but a short time.

Edward Busby, forty-seven years old, a native of Ohio, served nearly four years in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth infantry; has continued a member and is, and has been, for many years entirely blind.

James P. Larry was forty-five years old, born in Ohio, a member of Company "I," Forty-second Wisconsin infantry, and died April 17, 1902.

Of the above fifty-seven charter members, thirty-seven have passed into larger ranks and have been mustered beyond the dark river; eleven remain in Sparta and nine have moved away.

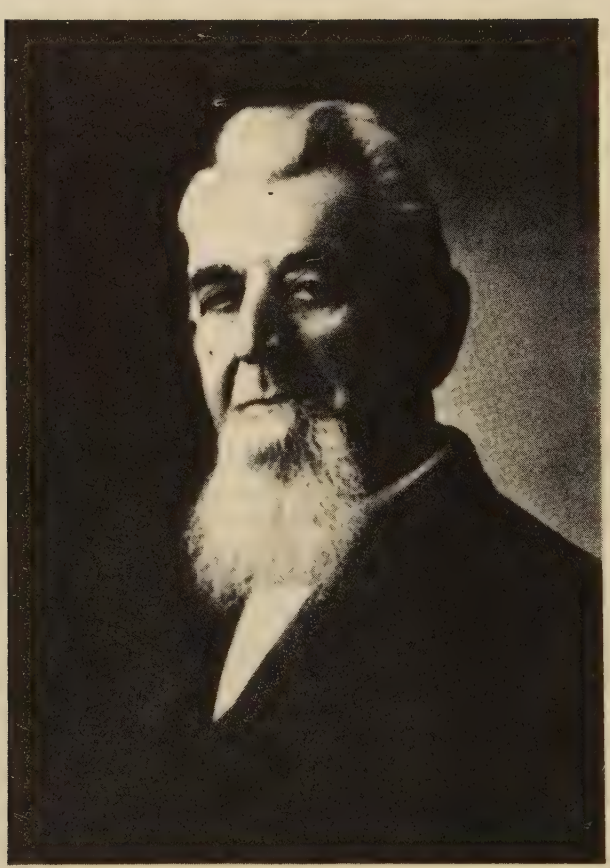
One hundred and eighty-two have been mustered into our ranks since, of whom eighty-six died and forty-six have withdrawn, some to move to other states and some for their own reasons not known to us, and there remains in good standing in the post at this writing sixty seasoned veterans, many of them so feeble and weak from age and infirmities that they are not able to meet with us, especially those living at a distance in the country.

The executive officers of the post since its organization have been:

In 1882 James Davidson, post commander, and William H. Blyton, adjutant; in 1883, Adelbert E. Bleekman, post commander, and William H. Blyton, adjutant; in 1884, Adelbert E. Bleekman, post commander, and Michael J. McOmber, adjutant; in 1885, Alonzo E. Howard, post commander, and Michael J. McOmber, adjutant; in 1886, Lucius M. Stevens was post commander, and Alonzo E. Howard, adjutant; in 1887, John A. Sholts was the chief executive officer, and Alonzo E. Howard has held the office of post adjutant to the present time. Elorus W. Babcock served as post commander in 1888, William H. Blyton in 1889, Arthur L. Page in 1890, William P. Meyer in 1891, Sylvanus Holmes in 1892, Russell Brownell in 1893, David C. Hope in 1894, Edward E. Olin in 1895, Ira A. Hill in 1896, N. J. Kemp in 1897, Thomas Hobson in 1898, DeWitt C. Beebe in 1899, A. R. Benzie in 1900 and 1901, John A. Sholts in 1902-03, Andrew C. Cole in 1904, Russell Brownell in 1905, and William H. Blyton in 1906-07-08-09-10-11.

Immediately on the organization of the post active operations were inaugurated to suitably decorate the graves of all deceased comrades of all wars for the preservation or defense of the nation, and in 1886 there was added to the by-laws of the post one requiring the quartermaster of the post to place a memorial tablet at the head of the graves of all defenders of the country buried in the several cemeteries within our jurisdiction, and at the head of the graves of all such who should thereafter be interred in such cemeteries.

The post has so far as its means would allow assisted and cared for the sick and needy soldiers, attended to the proper burial of all its deceased members, carried out faithfully its duty of celebrating Memorial Day by decorating the graves and providing suitable patriotic memorial addresses and by patriotic Sabbath services on the Sunday preceding Memorial Day, has procured the erection in the city park of a beautiful soldiers' monument, dedicated to "Our Nation's Defenders," has for years held patriotic services and addresses in our public schools to instill patriotism in the minds of our coming citizens, has cooperated with the national order in promoting the welfare of those who faithfully served the country and suffered, and has by every means in its power promoted good citizenship and love of country.



CAPT. M. E. LEONARD

CAPT. M. E. LEONARD'S WAR RECORD.

Captain Leonard's service to his country began as a recruiting officer, which position he held for several months. The governor, appreciating his fitness to command, appointed him captain and through his services in that capacity did valiant duty. He enlisted in July, 1862, in Company "D," Twenty-fifth Wisconsin regiment; was mustered in in August the same year, and his regiment was first stationed in Minnesota, near New Ulm, where they participated in the frontier Indian massacre. This company was in charge of Captain Leonard, who guarded the thirty-eight Indians who were now in Mankato, Minnesota. Prior to this they were ordered to scout through Big Cottonwood and Little Cottonwood to West Mankato, and January 1st were ordered to report at Madison, next to Columbus, Kentucky, where the subject was appointed port officer by General Asbeth. Captain Leonard at this time was first lieutenant and his regiment was ordered to Helena, Arkansas, where they were reviewed by General Beauford, down the Mississippi river to Vicksburg, being in charge of the subject, the trip being accomplished without accident. It was the season of what was known as the winter of deep ice and it was with the greatest difficulty that the trip was made. The gunboat was ordered to Helena and returned to Vicksburg in February for Sherman's march through Mississippi to Alabama, then returning to Vicksburg, thence up the river to Cairo, Illinois; thence to Moorsville and to Decatur, Alabama. Thence to the foot of Lookout mountain to Chattanooga, to Tunnel Hill, flanking recours on the right, thence engaging in the severe three-days' fight of Sugar Gap, following which was the battle of Rosackie; to Calhoun's ferry, crossing the river to Kingston; thence to Dallas, Texas, engaging in the battle of Dallas; thence to Altoona, to Kenesaw mountain, to Marietta, Georgia, to Chattahoochee at night through dense darkness. Next to Decatur, Georgia, thence six miles to Atlanta, with constant fighting during this trip. It was during this time that the regiment lost heavily from the enemy and the wounded and dead were left at Decatur. The balance of the regiment whipped around to the right and entered the siege of Atlanta after whipping General Hood, in which the loss of the men were heavy. The regiment then made a retrograde movement to West Point and over the mountains to the extreme right, and marching during the night to Lovejoy's station, and from there to West Point, to camp.

Then followed Hood to Altoona, thence to Alabama, Kingston, to Atlanta, moved on to Savannah, fighting and tearing up railways until they reached King's bridge, fifteen miles from Savannah, where they remained until the time of surrender. Then the subject became aide to Colonel Rusk and the regiment was ordered to Thunder Boat bay. Next demonstration was made on Savannah, leaving General Foster's command moving on up the line tearing up the railway between Augusta and Charleston and to the river of seven bridges, fording swamps, until Columbia was reached, extending their line of march to Bentonville, being the scene of the last battle, after running to Goldsborough and Raleigh, N. C., through Virginia, and marched to Grand river, where the captain's service ended.

The regiment was mustered out June 7, 1865, he having given nearly three years to the service.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The movement which culminated in the final completion, erection and dedication of the Soldiers' Monument which now stands in North Park originated on the 9th day of August, 1895, when, at a regular meeting of John W. Lynn Post No 30 Grand Army of the Republic, twelve comrades of the Post were unanimously elected a committee to consider whether or not it was feasible or desirable to erect at Sparta a Soldiers' Monument, and if so to consider the ways and means for its accomplishment and report at the next meeting of the Post. This committee consisted of Edwin E. Olin, chairman; Ira A. Hill, David C. Hope, Martin R. Gage, John A. Sholts, Alonzo E. Howard, William H. Blyton, Charles A. Hunt, Rufus S. Dodge, William P. Meyer, N. J. Kemp and E. W. Babcock This committee met at the office of Tyler & Hill on the 13th day of August and elected Alonzo E. Howard chairman of the committee; after a careful and thorough discussion, the committee decided that such a monument was desirable and a sub-committee consisting of Martin R. Gage, Rufus S. Dodge, Ira A. Hill and William P. Meyer were appointed to devise ways and means; at a meeting of the committee on August 22nd of the same year, a fair plan for raising funds was proposed by the sub-committee and adopted and reported at the meeting of the Post held on August 23rd, and after some discussion this plan was adopted and the Post added to the committee Comrades DeWitt C. Beebe and Thomas Hobson.

At the next meeting of the committee the plan which has been outlined was carried out substantially and Ira A. Hill was elected treasurer of the monument fund and sub-committees were appointed for the following purposes: For soliciting among soldiers, among citizens, to visit other posts and interest them; a press committee to publish such matter as in the opinion of the committee would interest the public in the enterprise. Subscription lists were prepared by the secretary and delivered to the solicitors and work was considered then fully organized.

A resolution was adopted by the committee that notes be accepted on subscriptions, payable on or before January 1, 1898,

providing the subscriptions adopted including the notes amounted to $2,500. Several notes were made and delivered to the treasurer and cash subscribed and collected and in the treasurer's hands, but in less than the time limited for the payment of the notes, interest seemed to wane, and the fund grew only by the interest on the certificates of deposit at 3 per cent, so that the notes given matured and were returned and canceled as the fund at their maturity had not reached the sum of $2,500.

But the project received new light, when, on November 16th, 1897, a "Ladies' Auxiliary" to the post was organized with seventeen charter members; as soon as this organization became strong enough they took up for their special work the raising of funds for the proposed monument; they gave socials with the usual refreshments and obtained subscription blanks from the secretary and solicited and collected funds; slowly and constantly the sum grew, owing to the hard work and with the perseverance of these few faithful workers, which could not be estimated and without whose work no monument would have been today in existence. After nearly five years of labor by these ladies a meeting was called September 19, 1902, to reorganize the committee for the special active work to complete all arrangements and secure the erection of the monument.

DeWitt C. Beebe was made chairman of this committee, Ira A. Hill, treasurer, and A. E. Howard, secretary; the other members of the committee were George D. Dunn and William C. Hoffman. Afterwards an organization known as the Soldiers' Monument Association was formed, it having for its officers and members D. C. Beebe, president; A. E. Howard, secretary; W. C. Hoffman, George Dunn as the executive committee; other members being W. McBride, Mrs. L. A. McWithy, Mrs. E. S. Dems, Mrs. Mary Cole, John A. Sholts, D. A. McWithy, Mrs. D. Benzie, Mrs. C. Foster, all of the above being of Sparta and J. E. Perry and A. C. Cole of Tomas and also N. J. Kemp, of Sparta.

A committee was appointed to confer with the county board of supervisors which endeavored to induce the board to give permission to place the monument on the court house grounds, have the county assume permanent care of it and if possible obtain an appropriation towards the expense of its construction, but these efforts met with no success whatever. This having proved an entire failure the committee appealed to the city council of the City of Sparta for aid. The council ordered a special election to be held upon the proposition as to the raising of the taxes on taxable property of the city of one-half mill on the dollar to

aid in the monument fund and at this election the citizens of Sparta voted the tax by a large majority; it was levied and collected with the regular taxes of 1904 and amounted to $1,087.21.

The treasurer of the committee, Ira A. Hill, died March 20, 1904, and George D. Dunn was elected to fill the vacancy. In order to fulfill the legal requirements under the city appropriation, the mayor appointed Andrew J. Carnahan, William H. Blyton, A. G. Welker and Wilfred McBride to represent the city on the committee. Plans and specifications were then procured and bids called for to erect the monument; these were invited to be of different kinds of granite with the granite statue of the soldier and also with a copper bronze statue complete with foundation to be placed on a location to be designated by the committee. The successful bidder was Mr. Fred Schlimegan, of Madison, Wisconsin, whose bid was accepted, being one with the specification that the monument was to be of Barre granite, except the centre block for the inscription, which is of Montello granite, and the statue of the soldier which is made of copper bronze. The monument was completed and accepted on December 4th and the contractor settled with and the total cost, including the monument complete, inscription, setting and expense, being about $3,000. The statue of the bronze soldier stands facing the south and on the south side of the face of the monument appears the words "In Memory of Our Nation's Defenders."

This monument was formally dedicated and accepted on the 30th day of May, 1905. Invitations were extended to all parts of the county and an elaborate program was planned and carried out, an extensive part of which was a march to the Woodlawn cemetery in the afternoon, where memorial exercises were held, and then proceeded to North Park, where with due and appropriate ceremonies the monument was unveiled and formally accepted on behalf of the city by Andrew Carnahan, then president of the city council.

As a fitting ending of this chapter none can better be written than the address by DeWitt C. Beebe, whose untiring efforts had been largely instrumental in the successful completion of this project, whose words, patriotic and full of emotion were delivered with that earnestness which was one of the characteristics of Dr. Beebe, and although this address was short, it had a profound effect upon the assembled audience. It is as follows:

"FELLOW CITIZENS-COMRADES: We have come to this quiet shaded place today to unveil this shaft of granite and

bronze and dedicate it with appropriate ceremony to the memory of 'Our Country's Defenders.' It seems eminently fitting and proper that we come directly here for this hallowed purpose from the little silent city over yonder, where we have tenderly strewn fresh, beautiful flowers upon the graves where lie our beloved dead. The two occasions seem so tenderly similar in sentiment that they should not be separated. Comrades, we have reason to rejoice that the Great Commander—the God of Battles—has spared our lives and health that so many of us are enabled to see this day and this hour. We have reason for congratulation that so many wives, widows and daughters of the veterans of the war of 1861-65 are also permitted to be here today and enjoy the consummation of their long, persistent, loyal labor, but for which, my friends, we would not be here today for this purpose. The memorial here which we shall unveil and dedicate today is the result of several years' labor and growth, a short sketch of which will be given later by Adjutant Howard. Comrades, it will matter very little to us in a few years when we shall have been mustered into that great army over the river whether or not sweet flowers from loyal, loving hands will be strewn upon our graves in the springtime of the returning years, or that a memorial has been erected in some beautiful spot to our memory, but the sentiment that is kept burning in the breasts of those who follow us, which prompts the doing of these offices is of momentous importance, for it is this that makes loyal heroes and a nation invincible in times of danger.

"Sad will be the day, and may it never come, when this great American people shall become so absorbed in cold business, crazed in finance, or so drunken with the pleasures of the day that they shall forget to recognize the services of their nation's defenders."

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE GOVERNMENT MILITARY RESERVATION.

The Spanish-American war, while accomplishing the great result in the freeing of Cuba, annexing of Porto Rico, the Philippines and consequent turning to civilization and education of the people of those tropical regions, did another thing—it gave to the military authorities of this country the long-needed lesson, which could not be too well learned, that army methods in this young and lusty republic were way behind the times; demonstrated that in the mobilization, equipping and feeding of troops in the field there was plenty of incompetency, plenty of antiquated red tape methods—and the army began to wake up. For a long period after the civil war, in fact, not really until the Spanish-American war, was there little, if any, attempt to mobilize troops in larger bodies than a regiment for field practice. The experience in the Spanish-American war brought about the necessity of frequent mobilization not only of regular troops, but also national guard organizations, for field maneuvers, and the field maneuvers now held in different parts of the country every other year are the result. Maneuver camps became a necessity and the war department began acquiring large tracts of land in different parts of the country for that purpose, under the provisions of various acts of congress.

The State Military Reservation at Camp Douglas, so admirably situated and equipped for rifle practice and maneuver ground, had years ago attracted the attention of the officers of the regular army, particularly of the then Department of the Lakes; and all reports sent the department gave praise to the location and natural advantages and equipment provided by the state, it being in almost every case described as one of the finest rifle ranges in the United States. Its fame grew and a number of years ago a department competition was held there, and later two batteries of artillery were sent up from Fort Sheridan for summer practice. The officers of the Department of the Lakes became strongly desirous that the government might acquire the reservation, especially for artillery practice, and offers were made through

Colonel Wagner to purchase the property, but the state refused at all times to part with control of it.

Way back during the time when the establishment of a range at Camp Douglas was being considered, the tract of land near what was then the station of LaFayette, in this county, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, lying principally in the towns of LaFayette and Angelo, was suggested to Gen. C. P. Chapman, then adjutant general of this state, by Col. George Graham, then the captain of Company K, and interested strongly in the establishment of a state camp ground. Owing, however, to the distance from the cities of Tomah and Sparta and to the better railway facilities at Camp Douglas, after looking over both tracts the latter was decided upon and became subsequently the state property.

The idea still obtained, however, that the LaFayette tract was suitable for military purposes, and attention of the war department was called to it by Congressman John J. Esch a few years ago. As early as 1897 Col. George Graham again called the attention of the officers of the national guard at a convention in Milwaukee to a tract of land lying between Tunnel City and Sparta.

Hon. W. H. Taft, then secretary of war, in 1906 advocated the establishment of four large military maneuver camps, to be used jointly by the regular army and the national guard of the several states, one to be located in the east, one in the south, one in the west, and one in the middle north. Congressman Esch at that time commenced a movement to locate the northern camp at Camp Douglas, Wis., by the purchase of land adjacent to the Wisconsin Military Reservation. Other sites suggested were in Pennsylvania, Texas and California. None of these large camps proposed by Secretary Taft had been provided for by congress, but as incidental thereto Mr. Esch was successful in securing an appropriation of $150,000 to purchase land adjacent to the military reservation at Camp Douglas for the use of the regular army and an artillery range, a purpose entirely distinct from that of a maneuver camp.

During the pendency of this legislation a board of regular army engineer officers, with Gen. A. H. Ernest at its head, visited Camp Douglas under orders to make a topograhpical survey, and while in Wisconsin were invited to Sparta, and accompanied by General Boardman, Colonel Salsman and Colonel Graham were driven over the lands between Sparta and Tunnel City. General Ernest in his report to the war department on Camp Douglas, in-

cluded a reference to the Sparta site. The summer work of the United States field artillery is comprised of long practice marches and a target practice. Very few places are available for this latter purpose, and artillery officers during this part were sent over the country looking for location for an artillery range. Maj. Samuel Allen, commanding the artillery at Fort Snelling, Minn., in 1905, while searching for a place for target practice, came to Camp Douglas during the encampment of the Third regiment that year. Adjutant General Boardman suggested to him the availability of the Sparta site, and called Colonel McCoy in consultation, with the result that an invitation was extended to the battalion commanded by Major Allen to go into camp on the McCoy ranch, Colonel McCoy having gradually, during a long series of years, acquired title to about 4,000 acres of this land. Major Allen accepted the invitation and the battalion of artillery came from Fort Snelling and camped for sixteen days during the month of September, 1905, testing the various ranges which might be available for artillery practice, and his report upon the possibilities of the Sparta tract called the attention of the war department very strongly to it.

Meanwhile the passage of the appropriation of $150,000.00 proposed by Congressman Esch for the purchase of land near Camp Douglas, caused land owners in that vicinity to raise the price of land from $3.00 an acre to about $30.00, or thereabouts, and the war department found it impossible to deal with them, with the result that the attempt to purchase any land at Camp Douglas ceased and the appropriation remained in the hands of the war department unexpended.

This situation brought the attention of the war department back to Sparta and resulted in the sending of a board, consisting of Major Mott and Captain Overton, to report upon the advisability of purchasing lands at Camp Douglas or leasing lands at Sparta. In September of 1907 Battery C from Fort Snelling, under the command of Captain Overton, camped on the McCoy ranch, and was there when the board above mentioned, and of which he was a member, investigated the two sites of Camp Douglas and Sparta. They were accompanied by General Boardman, Colonel Salsman, Colonel McCoy, Major Williams, and a part of the time by Congressman Esch. After a thorough investigation the board made a report to the war department disapproving of the purchasing of lands at Camp Douglas because of the exorbitant prices demanded, and recommended that the lands at Sparta be leased, but the board did, however, go a step farther

and recommended the purchase of 7,600 acres of land at Sparta.

This recommendation to become effective required legislation by congress to enable the war department to use the Camp Douglas appropriation at Sparta or so much of the same as might be found necessary to purchase the Sparta site. This again opened the fight between the people interested in the lands at Camp Douglas and Sparta. Congressman Esch was successful, however, in amending the bill, or law, which had appropriated the $150,000.00 by having the words "Camp Douglas" stricken out and the word "Sparta" inserted, so that the appropriation became available for the purchase of this land.

Colonel McCoy, during the time that the board of investigation was looking upon this site, prepared and presented strong arguments for the purchase of the property. The idea of leasing this land was given up and the war department finally decided to purchase a tract of 7,500 acres, and negotiations were commenced and were pending for some time, it being found that so many of the pieces of land were acquired by tax title transfers that it would be necessary to condemn the lands in order to get a perfect title in the government, and proceedings were inaugurated in 1909 for that purpose.

Through the good work of Congressman Esch and others interested in the matter the department was finally convinced that it would be the best thing to buy the inner tract of 7,500 acres, as it was called, and also to buy an outer tract or rim of land around this of about 7,500 acres more. Eventually negotiations were concluded through the efforts of Judge R. B. McCoy in the summer of 1909 whereby the government became the owner of a grand total of 14,206.65 acres, and the Sparta maneuver tract became a reality.

In April, 1909, the war department announced the commencement of artillery practice, and during July and August sent a battalion of regular army officers, consisting of Captains William Brook, Albany, New York; C. K. Green, Chicago, Ill.; William Cruikshank, Fort Sheridan, Ill.; John J. Calerus, of Chicago, together with District Passenger Agent W. W. Winton, of the St. Paul company; Trainmaster Henrichs, of Milwaukee, and Roadmaster P. H. Madden, together with Col. R. B. McCoy and Maj. D. W. Cheney located the place for the temporary buildings and for the camp grounds. The whole matter was gone over thoroughly and a maneuver camp selected on the north side of the railway tracks, and the artillery camp remained at the location which had been previously occupied by Colonel Allen, near

the artesian well, close to and on the south side of the tracks of the St. Paul company.

Temporary galvanized storage buildings were provided for and erected during the summer of 1909. The St. Paul company provided a side track for unloading purposes near the artillery camps, and ran a spur into the maneuver camp grounds and placed there a large amount of side tracks so that troop trains could be handily unloaded. An artesian well was sunk at the maneuver camp ground in the summer of 1910, and a large steel elevated water tank erected and pipes laid to conduct the water throughout the camp grounds. A tank was also erected at the artillery camp which is supplied from the large flowing well, which had been running for several years.

The war department having issued orders for artillery practice, in addition to the regular batteries ordered to Sparta, batteries from the states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota were, upon invitation, ordered to Sparta for artillery practice and instruction during the months of August and September.

Three regular batteries of light field artillery, one from Fort Sheridan, one from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and one from Fort Snelling, Minnesota, arrived about the 8th of July, 1909, together with the regimental band of the Fifth artillery from Fort Leavenworth, being Companies E, D and F, of the Fifth artillery, under the command of Captain Cruikshank as camp commander. The camp was named "Camp Robinson" in honor of Colonel Robinson, at one time a resident of the city of Sparta, and the government military reservation known as the "Sparta Maneuver Tract," was duly inaugurated as one of the great military centers for field operations for the army and the national guard. The possibilities of it would seem to be far greater than was originally anticipated; as the strategic location in the middle west, with the railroad facilities and the large acreage, makes it at once available as a point for the mobilization of large bodies of troops in the time of war and for conducting maneuvers on a larger scale than ever heretofore adopted in time of peace.

On the 13th of July Company A, of the Hospital Corps from Fort Russell, Wyoming, consisting of 120 and ten officers, arrived and went into camp. They were under the command of Major Fauntleroy, and the officers of the corps in attendance were Major Purpiance, Major Pratton, Captain Whitcomb, Captain Bale, Captain Talbot, Lieutenant Jones, Lieutenant Leary, Lieu-

tenant Doerr and Lieutenant Bayley, all surgeons of the regular army.

Soon after the arrival of this company and the army surgeons a new feature to the regular army service was inaugurated by the establishment of a School of Instructions for National Guard Medical Officers. The school conducted at Camp Robinson is one of three held during the year 1909, the other two being at Annapolis, Maryland, and California. In previous years the instruction which the National Guard medical officers received was given at the encampments of the state troops by officers of the regular army detailed for that purpose.

The present system which brings the medical officers of the various states under the instruction of a fully equipped hospital corps becomes so evident that there is but little doubt but that the medical school of instructions will, and practically has, become a part of the plans of the War Department for increasing the efficiency of the National Guard.

The instruction given at this first school consisted in daily lectures given by the regular army surgeons concerning the various phases of practice encountered in connection with the army work. There was also given practical demonstration of field work by the members of the hospital corps, and the work throughout was made as realistic as it was possible to have it without the actual presence of the wounded.

The first class of National Guard surgeons arrived on the 15th of July, and consisted of thirty-one officers from the states of Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Mississippi and Wisconsin. After their departure another class arrived as large, was estimably from these various states, and remained for another period of ten days, and on the 12th of August, the Company A, of the Hospital Corps returned to its station at Fort Russell, Wyoming.

Connected with the Minnesota batteries which were in camp during the fore part of August in that year was Mr. P. Daley, a wireless telegraph expert, who had been conducting experiments with the wireless telegraph as a means of communication between inland points. With the permission of County Clerk Talbot, Mr. Daley erected upon the roof of the Court House a small wireless apparatus, the object of which experiment was to demonstrate the usefulness of the wireless telegraph as a means of communication between troops so that in case of actual warfare it will be possible for detachments to erect stations at any point and communicate with each other.

After the apparatus was finally set up Mr. Smith, a represent-

ative of the St. Paul Dispatch, about 4:00 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, August 5th, sent the following message to St. Paul, addressed to Judge Thomas Wilson, the oldest living resident of that city: "This is the first wireless message ever sent into the city of St. Paul, and in appreciation of the many things you have done to make it possible, it has been addressed to you."

The message was received all right in St. Paul and the experiment was pronounced a success. In the history of the reservation the encampment of 1909 was made memorable by a visit of Maj. Gen. Fred D. Grant, commanding the Department of the Lakes, which occurred on the 26th of August.

The General arrived at Colvin station, which was the name given for the stopping place near the artillery camp, and was received by Captain Cruikshank and escorted to the headquarters tent. After breakfast the General was met by Congressman Esch and United States District Attorney George H. Gordon, of LaCrosse, and Maj. D. W. Cheney, of Sparta, and this party was taken by Maj. Cheney in his automobile for a tour of inspection of the range. During the forenoon the distinguished visitors were shown all of the portion of the tract which could be reached with an auto, and in the afternoon the inspection was continued in an army wagon. The following day the General was taken over the more inaccessible portions of the range, including the many hills, on horseback.

His inspection was most complete and at the end of it General Grant expressed himself as highly pleased, and stated that he found it in all respects superior to what it had been represented to him as being, and it was reported at this time that the General was in favor of extending the reservation by the purchase of additional land up to the amount of 20,000 acres. He afterwards in a report recommended that the range be converted into a general maneuver tract for all branches of the service, that small arms ranges be installed, and other extensive improvements made. The General's visit was productive of much good and his report afterwards resulted in further action by the War Department as to the installing of fixed distance ranges, and early in 1910 in the army operation a bill passed by congress was included the amount of $40,000 for improvements on the military reservation near Sparta, and was the first definite step towards the development of the tract for further uses, in accordance with the plans which the War Department then had in view, for it marked the beginning of a settled policy with regard to this reservation, and indicated that in the near future the national

rifle contests would be held upon this ground instead of at Camp Perry, Ohio, where these contests had been held for several years.

And the reasons for asking for these appropriations were submitted to congress by the Secretary of War and originally made to the secretary by J. B. Aleshire, quartermaster general of the United States army, and in a part of his recommendation with regard to military posts, has found the following, which is an extract from the same: "Target range, Sparta, Wisconsin: For the construction and equipment of a target range for the field firing of the artillery, cavalry and infantry branches of the United States army and for machine guns, including the construction of a concrete store house, portable railroad and improvements on camp sites for water and sanitation on land authorized to be acquired near Sparta, Monroe county, Wis., as a site for target range, and for all other absolutely necessary expenses in connection herewith, to be immediately available, $40,000." (Note—The foregoing estimate is submitted in view of a report made thereon by Col. R. K. Evans, Twenty-eighth infantry, United States army, which reads in part as follows:)

"Advisability of establishing a range for field-firing on the Sparta reservation for the three arms—artillery, cavalry and infantry—and machine guns: This reservation, on account of its size, 14,000 acres, and the character of the terrain, offers excellent facilities for field firing, in which the fire of artillery and small arms can be worked in combination against moving and disappearing targets at unknown ranges. This kind of field firing is the most advanced stage in the training of modern armies for battle. So far we have not fully equipped a single range for this kind of work, while the other great powers have been busy in this direction for years. Our Small Arms Firing Manual, 1909, contemplates this kind of practice, but there is only one range in the United States where it is at all practicable to put it into execution even for rifle and machine gun fire, viz., the one near Monterey, California, used by the School of Musketry. Moreover, as this range is not owned by the government it is not advisable to spend anything on permanent or extensive improvements or appliances.

"If we are to keep abreast of the standard of progress set by other nations we should equip and use other field ranges as soon as possible. The Sparta range has a decided advantage over the one in California in that it is accessible to a much larger population. It might be valuable for the troops in the Department of

the Lakes and Dakotas, and for the militia of four or five populous states. In view of the fact that the most important feature of the practical training of modern troops for battle consists in practicing the combined and supporting fire of infantry and artillery directed against a common objective, it is recommended that an ordinary, standard known-distance target range be established on the Sparta reservation, and also that the necessary appliances be provided for firing at moving and disappearing targets, the most important of the moving and disappearing targets to be arranged to run on light movable railway tracks.

"Light portable railroads are now a recognized part of the necessary transportation equipment of modern armies for war. The leading military powers kept more or less material of this kind in store for war purposes. The Japanese used such roads extensively in Manchuria. Kuroki's march from the Yalu to Mukden would not have been practicable without the DeCauville railroad. We read and talk much about the use and value of DeCauville roads in war, but none of our officers have seen one in operation in our territory or know its practical uses and limitations from actual experience.

"It is believed that this range offers an excellent opportunity for acquiring necessary experience in deciding on a type for such railroads, which up to this time is not definitely decided. Should an emergency arise requiring the use of such roads the material on hand at the Sparta range could be immediately shipped to the point required. In order not to lose a year it is necessary that some funds be made available for commencing improvements on this reservation before the adjournment of the present congress. It is believed that at least $40,000 should be appropriated for this purpose. With this sum it is estimated that known-distance range could be equipped with 100 targets, $12,000; a storehouse of concrete built, $8,000; and the remainder spent on the portable railroad and on improvements on the camp sites for water and sanitation generally.

"The construction and equipment of this range was under consideration by the department prior to the submission of the regular annual estimate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, but the necessary data for the preparation of this estimate was not at hand in time to permit of its inclusion in the regular estimates. The submission of this supplemental estimate is deemed imperatively necessary in order that funds may be provided for the commencement of this work at the earliest possible date." The foregoing extract from the report of the quartermaster gen-

eral of the army outlines the course which is to be pursued in the future in the development of all arms of the service in the army with the exception of the coast artillery; and insures the extensive use to which this big reservation will be put in the future, and that for the field work of an army corps.

On May 3, 1910, the War Department issued order No. 79, providing for the military work on the range for the summer, including maneuvers on an extended scale. Early in June Battery F from Fort Sheridan, Battery E from Fort Snelling, and Battery D from Fort Leavenworth arrived at the reservation in advance of other troops and engaged in long-distance firing until the beginning of maneuver field instructions of state troops during August. These batteries are all a part of the Fifth Field Artillery, and in addition to them the headquarters field staff and band of the Medical Battalion was also ordered into camp.

Under order 79, above referred to, the following troops were designated to attend the maneuvers, and arrived about the 1st of August, to-wit: Three troops of the Fourth Cavalry from Fort Snelling; three troops of the Fifteenth Cavalry from Fort Sheridan; headquarters and one battery Fifth Artillery from Fort Sheridan; one battery Fifth Artillery from Fort Sheridan; one battery Fifth Artillery from Fort Leavenworth; headquarters and eleven companies of the Twenty-seventh Infantry from Fort Sheridan; headquarters and eleven companies of the Twenty-eighth Infantry from Fort Snelling; one-half of Company A, of the Hospital Corps, from Fort Russell, Wyoming.

This order required that all infantry troops must march at least 200 miles in reaching the city of Sparta or returning to their station, while the cavalry and the artillery were required to march 250 miles. In addition to the above troops from the regular army there were ordered to the reservation for artillery practice National Guard batteries from different states as follows: Ohio seven batteries, Indiana three batteries, Michigan one battery, Illinois three batteries, Iowa one battery, Minnesota one battery, Wisconsin one; all of light artillery. None of these organizations brought their own equipments, but for the purposes of instruction they were required to handle the regular army equipments of the batteries above designated. This order also provided that to participate in maneuvers several regiments of infantry were ordered to the reservation and arrived at different times during the month of August: Wisconsin sent the First Regiment and the Tenth Battalion, making sixteen companies; Iowa one brigade and three regiments, Minnesota one regiment,

North Dakota twelve companies, South Dakota twelve companies, so that the troops which participated in the maneuvers during this month numbered about 10,000.

The scheme of instruction resembled nearly as possible the conditions to be encountered in actual warfare, the object being to promote the field training of the troops. Accurate topographical maps of the entire reservation had been previously made by the engineering department, and each day during the stay of the troops problems of varied characters were proposed and the solution of them wrought out on the field. Ceremonies were cut down to the lowest limit and the actual practice work was pursued with vigor and great benefit to the troops engaged in this maneuver.

This encampment was under the command of Brig. Gen. Walter Howe, and in honor of Capt. Bruce E. McCoy, of Sparta, who with his son, Colonel McCoy, had been so instrumental in establishing the reservation, General Howe on the 1st day of August issued an order naming the camp "Camp Bruce E. McCoy." Captain McCoy was a captain in the Civil War, and for years was the owner of the old Lafayette mill property and of the land on which the maneuver camp itself was located. The following named officers were detailed for service at this camp: Maj. Samuel D. Sturgis, General Staff Corps; Maj. Walter H. Gorton, Inspector general; Capt. Douglas Settle, commissary; Lieut. Col. William B. Bannister, Medical Corps; Maj. Thomas C. Goodman, paymaster; Capt. Charles W. Castle, paymaster; Capt. Dana T. Merrill, Twenty-eighth Infantry.

During the month of August the range was visited by Gen. Robert Shaw Oliver, Assistant Secretary of War, who gave it a thorough inspection. Governor Carroll, of Iowa, also visited the maneuver camp on the 19th of August and reviewed the Iowa Brigade on the afternoon of the 19th. The maneuvers of 1910 were very successful and demonstrated beyond question that this big reservation was well adapted for the purpose, as the range used by the troops around the maneuver camp did not extend more than four miles, so that there is ample room for the camping of several brigades on different portions of the reservation wherever water may be provided. And the best of water is obtained by sinking artesian wells, from which a flow of water is obtained at a very moderate depth and easily carried to any distance by piping.

Early in 1910 Lieutenant Gilmore of the regular service was detailed as constructing quartermaster and moved to Sparta with his family, where he remained during 1910 and up until about

August, 1911. He had full charge of the constructing of the rifle range of the reservation, for which an appropriation of $40,000 had been made by congress. The work was very thoroughly done and there is now constructed rifle pits built of concrete with ample store rooms sunk into the embankment of hills, targets and various supplies, and the range is equipped with something like two hundred of the most modern targets to be procured. A large concrete office building and storehouse has been constructed, and the grading and seeding of the firing points completed.

An effort was made to secure the national rifle competition of this range in 1911, and the War Department was entirely friendly toward the proposition providing the range was in condition for holding such a contest, and a board of officers were ordered here early in the summer for the purpose of inspecting and looking the range over thoroughly. They finally decided it would be best not to attempt to hold the competition on the range that year in order to allow the seeding to take root and be in good shape another year.

Through the efforts of Colonel McCoy the town board of Angelc during the month of January and after considerable contest have laid out a road through the town of Angelo to the range, which will shorten the distance from this city considerably, and that road will, undoubtedly, be completed and in good shape for travel by the time this history is published. The only disadvantages have been the poor roads, as they go through sandy country, but with that remedied the great benefit which will be received to the citizens of Sparta and the city of Tomah and vicinity, through the purchase of needed supplies, cannot be very well estimated, as the benefit will, undoubtedly, grow greater as the equipment on the reservation is perfected. The railroad facilities are now very ample as the North Western railway has constructed a spur track leading directly to the rifle range, and there is also placed a track constructed by the St. Paul company to the same place, and ample sidetrack facilities are in existence at the point where the main storehouse is located. The St. Paul company has constructed a new station known as "McCoy," and built a tasty little depot not far from the artillery camp. The North Western company has also erected a small depot on the line of the Milwaukee, Sparta & North Western Railway Company so that during the existence of maneuvers railroad facilities are now provided for.

This chapter would not be complete without mentioning the

indefatigable work of Col. R. B. McCoy, which has been mainly instrumental in the establishment of this great enterprise. While interested somewhat personally in some of the land which was bought by the government, yet in addition to that, Colonel McCoy spent a large amount of his time in acquiring options on the entire tract, using a diplomacy and patience which was indeed remarkable, and bringing to a successful conclusion a task which looked almost impossible. His energy and perseverance have brought great results, such as only a man of his ability can bring about.

CHAPTER XIX.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

JOSEPH M. MORROW.

Fitting indeed it is to spread upon these pages the tributes of respect and affection from his brothers of the legal profession, to the memory of "Joe" Morrow; for "Joe" he was. The name was used not in the sense of familiarity, but in that sense which so strongly indicates the friendly respect which a good-hearted man receives from his fellows. Uniformly kind, courteous and gentlemanly, mild of manner and speech, yet his personality was one which attracted attention wherever he went. His strong face, full of character, his straightforward method of dealing with the matter in hand, commanded attention and gave weight to those things which in others might have seemed commonplace. Always kind and helpful to the younger members of the bar, a generous opponent in any case, he held the friendship of his fellow attorneys to the end.

On the 10th of October, 1899, at the fall term of the Circuit Court, Judge O. B. Wyman presiding, memorial exercises were held and the court adjourned for that day as a mark of respect. A resolution signed by the members of the bar of Monroe county was introduced and adopted as follows:

"On motion of the bar of Monroe county, the Circuit Court of this county has set apart this day to be devoted to memorial exercises in honor of our deceased brother, Hon. J. M. Morrow, formerly Judge of this Circuit.

"In his death the members of this bar share with the bar of the state of Wisconsin a loss that is great, but to us the companions of his daily life, his death was a shock and a loss that was irreparable. Stricken down in the ripe vigor of his intellectual manhood in the noon of his professional activity, and at a time when his moral influence with us, his associates, was most potent for good, for us his place cannot be filled and our sorrow is daily renewed.

"We his brothers of the bar of Monroe county, desire to place

permanently upon the records of this court and to have it entered as a part of the proceedings of this term the following:

"We admire in him the industry, learning, wisdom and ability that placed him in the front rank of lawyers of this state. We honor in him as a lawyer and hold up for emulation to those who come after him, an integrity, zeal and devotion to his client's interests that made his good faith beyond suspicion, a professional honor that made his word and his implied obligations better than written stipulations, a courtesy to his associates and antagonists alike that softened any asperities of legal conflict, a sunny temper and genial humor that robbed defeat of its sting and bound closer in friendship his antagonists, and above all, that delicate sense of personal integrity that kept his professional zeal within those limits that hold the gentleman.

"We reverence in his career on the bench in an eminent degree, the qualities that have adorned the judicial office of this circuit since its organization, reinforced, ripened and broadened by an experience at the bar exceptional in its scope. As an official he brought to the discharge of his duties the same great zeal and ability that marked his professional life. As a citizen he had the respect and esteem of all, and his advice was sought in all important affairs. As a man we loved him. Geo. Graham, C. M. Masters, Sev. Button, D. F. Jones, H. C. Spaulding, R. B. Graves, Chris. Maxwell, Wm. B. Naylor, Jr., R. A. Richards, R. B. McCoy, H. C. Altizer, H. B. Clark."

The remarks were made by several members of the bar from different counties as follows:

H. W. Barney, of Mauston, said—"May it please the Court: I have no set speech to make. Brother Hughes and myself come here to represent Juneau county—one of the counties in the judicial circuit over which Judge Morrow presided—at this memorial service. I am here to say that the people and bar of Juneau county entertained the greatest respect for Judge Morrow as a lawyer, a judge and a man. He had an extensive practice in our county and for more than thirty years he attended nearly, if not all, our terms of the Circuit Court. He attended many cases there in justices' courts. The day before he died, July 27th last, I met him in Elroy, where we adjourned several cases over into September—engagements that death prevented him from fulfilling. It seems to us that he belonged to our county as much as he did to this county.

"When our court meets in November he will be missed as much or more than any of our resident attorneys, and the loss

will be felt in Juneau county as keenly as in any locality in the state. Juneau county seconds the adoption of memorial presented and endorses all that has been said here today in eulogy of Judge Morrow."

Remarks of A. E. Bleekman, of LaCrosse—"May it please the Court: I have not come with a prepared speech for this occasion. Yet if I do not respond to these resolutions and speak somewhat of my feelings, I shall be derelict in my duty to the deceased.

"I knew our brother, and I knew him well. I first became acquainted with him thirty years ago the coming winter, at the office of the Hon. George Graham, of this bar, where I was then a student. He came to Tomah in the interest of a client, Mr. John Maxwell, one of the oldest settlers of the county. I remember that meeting as well as if it were yesterday, even the clothes he wore, for he was not a man of the passing hour, but made an impression upon those he met. He was then the same mild, gentlemanly, even-tempered man he always was. I next heard of him at Tunnel City in his professional duties, where, when presented with a decision of our own Supreme Court, exactly opposite the position he was contending for, he arose and gravely asked the court if he was going to make a fool of himself because the Supreme Court had—and won his case.

"As the years pased on and our business relations extended, we met oftener in the trial of causes and our acquaintance ripened into strong personal friendship. He was the soul of honor, above envy and jealousy, one of the few who possess the ability—almost a genius—to surpass and subdue and not have to look down upon the hate of those below. For over eleven years we practiced side by side without a writing between us, all the interests of our clients and our individual interests resting upon the word of each. In all that time he never hesitated—he never forgot his word. When he said he would do so and so at such a time, that was the end of it, and he did it without having to be reminded of his agreement. He loved his profession and he cherished his honor. He was genial and happy in the labors of that profession and in his intercourse with his fellowmen.

"At his office he was industrious, studious and thoughtful in his work; plain, kind, just and conscientious with his clients, and at the bar a strong, able, sagacious, courteous and eloquent advocate. I sometimes thought he did not grasp legal propositions as easily and clearly as some, but required more study and deeper thought to arrive at correct conclusions, which he usually did,

but in the gathering, accumulating, selection and presentation of facts he was a master. He despised technicalities and went to the very merit and root of his cause. As a lawyer he seemed to be a connecting link between the old and the new, possessing the honor, the integrity and the love of the profession which marked the old school lawyer, and he regarded the commercialism, as I have often heard him call it, that seemed to be usurping and taking the place of these high ideas in the new, with disfavor. In his social life he thoroughly believed in a part of that counsel of Polonius to Laertes, 'The friends thou hast and their adoption tried grapple them to thee with hoops of steel,' but he cast to the wind the remainder of that counsel, 'but do not stop to dull thy palm with each new-hatched unfledged comrade,' and few men were nearer and warmer to so many people as he. I know of no other attorney at the bar in this state who, going where he might, alighting from the train where he would, would meet so many warm hearts and have his hand clasped by so many warm hands in kindness, in friendship and in respect as he. And yet all was not sunshine with him. He had his gloomy hours as well as others. I remember well of a time when he and I took the train at the depot here in the morning, went to Kendall, tried a law suit all day and into the night, returning early the next morning to Norwalk, then going by team to Ontario and trying a lawsuit all that day and into the night. When he retired we occupied the same room, with separate beds. In the morning as we were preparing for breakfast he turned to me and said: 'This is a hard life; is it worth living?' And yet no one thought more of his life, enjoyed it or desired to continue it than he.

"I was with him in that memorable contest of Judge Newman's for the Supreme Bench, both before Judge Newman became a candidate and subsequently. I had an opportunity to test his loyalty, fidelity and breadth of mind. He was no mere partisan, although a Democrat. He was as attentive and watchful of the interests of his friends as of his own. There are none of us but know how faithful and attentive he was to those dear ones at home, and how, during the later years of his life, he managed his business affairs when away to reach home as speedily as possible. We know full well how attentively and affectionately he watched over them, and how solicitous he was for their welfare.

"The bar of this state has lost one of its strongest members. Especially is this true of the bar of this district, and at his home, the place where he lived, for he was indeed a loyal Spartan. His death caused us universal sorrow. A half century will not pro-

duce another who will fill the place he filled. Some of the brightest and the happiest hours of my life have been spent in converse with him. As the years roll on and time dims this hour, I expect to live over these hours I passed with him, and say as Burns said:

"'Still o'er these scenes my memory wakes,
And fondly broods with miser care,
Time but the impression deeper makes,
As streams their channels deeper wear.'"

Remarks of Wyatt H. Graves, of LaCrosse county—"May it please the Court: The custom in accordance with which we are today assembled, is appropriately and worthily observed, only when the surviving associates of the one whose virtues are to be commemorated, in a spirit if candor and truth record their testimony to his worth. It is with feelings of sincere sadness that I come on this occasion to pay humble tribute to the memory of the lamented dead. To me it is a sad and sacred pleasure, but the burden of the duty is made lighter by the consciousness that it can be best discharged by simple, truthful reference to the character of him in whose honor I would speak. It seems fitting that we should turn from active duties of the hour and pause during the all-absorbing cares of life to pay our respects to one who honored us by his presence as a member of this bar and won our respect and admiration by his noble life.

"When the announcement was made that the summons, which, sooner or later, must come to us all, had called from our midst our friend and brother, Hon. Joseph M. Morrow, it brought with it a shock inexpressibly sad. The sun, warm and bright, was pouring his flood of life and glory on field and laughing brook, on the air was the smell of roses, and in the trees the songs of birds, and all the world was beautiful, when the darkness came—a quick, sudden, endless eclipse, just after noontide. Though we often bend over the bier and look on the face of the dead, yet the departure of our friends at an unexpected moment shocks us indeed and overwhelms us with sorrow, and when our good and our loved ones die, the memory of their just deeds, like moonbeams on the stormy sea, lights up our darkened hearts and lends to the surrounding gloom a beauty so sweet and sad, that we would not if we could dispel the darkness that environs it.

"I hardly know of one whose death could sunder more or dearer ties; one who could leave so much behind him and a pathway lighted by a fairer radiance. A more modest, unassuming man; a finer and a truer gentleman, a better and a nobler friend

I never knew. The more I saw and knew of him the more warmly I loved and honored him for his many noble traits. I will not indulge in what might be construed to be fulsome adulation; I will speak of him as he actually was. He was in its truest and fullest sense a 'born gentleman.' He was conscientiously and thoroughly honest, honorable and candid in all his dealings and transactions with his fellow men, personally, financially and politically. He won the admiration and respect of his professional brethren by the open fairness of his contests. He attached himself to his client and his cause with a loyalty that knew no shadow of turning. He threw his whole soul into the case on trial. He abandoned no cause when it lacked numbers. He deserted no friend in the minority. He feared no opposition when he believed himself right, and he espoused no cause that he believed unjust. His manliness and fairness not only won clients, but commanded the respect of adversaries, the confidence of judges, and the admiration of the public. He was a wonderful advocate, armed with eloquence so enchanting that jurors became his captives. Always frank and candid, he was utterly free from even the appearance of demagogy. He hated shams and despised pretensions. He never disappointed a friend; he never ignored an obligation; he never forfeited a confidence. His will was invincible; his motives pure. His purposes were definite, but exemplary and lofty. His self-respect was intense; therefore he strove for justice to others. He sought no mean advantage, being jealous of his own honor.

" 'To thine own self be true,
Thou canst not then be
False to any man'

"When I say, as I do with all my heart, that our dead brother whose life we commemorate today, illustrated this simple but exalted philosophy to which I have made reference, in all his relations to life, I have said everything that need be spoken, even for the lamented dead, by the partial lips of sincere affection, and have paid to him the proudest tribute which honest merit ever won from unobsequious homage. He was a model in all the tender relations of domestic life. As a husband he was exemplary—faithful, loving and tenderly devoted to his noble and worthy invalid companion in life. In him the living have lost a kind husband, a tender father and faithful friend; his state a true son, but he has left them that richest of all treasures, a spotless reputation, the memory of earnest deeds well done. This much have

I felt impelled to say of Joseph M. Morrow. I feel exalted that I knew him; I revere his memory; I rejoice that he was my countryman."

Remarks of G. W. Woodard, of LaCrosse county—"May it please your honor: But little can be added in commemoration of Judge Joseph Morrow to what has already been said, but in view of my long acquaintance with him it is proper for me, in behalf of the bar of the county of LaCrosse and of the circuit, to join with others in moving the adoption of the memorial which has been read.

"In 1857 I made the acquaintance of Mr. L. W. Graves, then young, but a leader of the bar of this county, in trial work, and within a year or two thereafter I met Mr. Morrow, his student, and from that time on we were always firm friends. Among the elements entering into the early settlement of this part of the state, one of the strongest and most potent was the influence and power of the lawyers who gave tone and character to the bar of the circuit and of the state. Among these were Daniel Reid Wheeler, Mr. L. W. Graves, William Denison, James I. Lyndes, Alonzo Johnson, Hugh Cameron, Angus Cameron, William H. Tucker, Edwin Flint and George Gale. These men were then in the vigor of their manhood, well equipped for their labors, diligent and faithful in their duties, and loyal to the principles and traditions of their profession. Among such men at the bar of this court, and contemporaneous with many of them, and as one of them Mr. Morrow (then very young) took his place, and for many years as a trial lawyer was regarded and recognized as one of the ablest and shrewdest who ever practiced in the circuit.

"Mr. Morrow became the legal adviser of many business men in this and other communities, and I venture to assert that no man ever went from his office with advice to do anything which when done would reflect on his honor and integrity, or on the honor and integrity of the man to whom he gave it. In the performance of his duties as a lawyer he was honest because he believed in it, and not because of policy. The spring of success in his work was the perfect control he exercised over his powers, his complete understanding of himself, and his limitations, his minute and thorough perception of cause and effect in the art of trying cases, and his consummate skill in so presenting his case as to hide its defects and make what bore for it conspicuous. He tried a case with the ease of second nature, which makes jurors and courts oblivious to the effort and skill which can produce such effects. He was successful in his profession because of his

knowledge of men, his tact, his honesty to his client, his fairness to his opponent, and the impression he made that he fully believed, and was sincere in his belief, that his client should prevail. He was powerful in his profession and never struck a blow without leaving his mark. He was an acute and sound lawyer. He possessed good common sense. His amiable and unassuming deportment, and his uniform courtesy made him popular and well liked. His kindness and courtesy to all was a part of himself. His industry was most untiring, and his zeal in behalf of his clients deserving of the highest praise. No man was ever found quicker than he to appreciate merit and to forgive frailty, or palliate a defect. It was part of his nature. His impulses were sympathetic. His temper was good.

"After practicing in the county and circuit courts for more than thirty years, he was called to the bench by the practically unanimous consent of the members of the bar of the circuit. They knew him and recognized his merit. He occupied the bench for a period of about eighteen months, scarcely time to give him an opportunity to show fully what has capabilities as a judge were, but his judgment was clear and calm, and his decisions gave general satisfaction. As judge he bore in mind the doctrine of Socrates: 'Three things belong to a judge; to hear courteously, consider soberly, and give judgment without partiality.' He was a man of his word and kept it absolutely on all occasions. In his home he developed that highest of human virtues—self-sacrifice—and his devotion to an invalid wife was touching and beautiful. His first and greatest impulse was sympathy. This displayed itself in a constant solicitude for the comfort of those around him, and in a thousand courtesies adorning his conduct. The work of the advocate is not enduring. It too often perishes with the occasion. Judge Morrow rests from his labors, but his memory will live while the people who knew him live, and in the hearts of those who loved him."

Remarks of D. F. Jones, of Sparta—"May it please the Court: While my acquaintance with Judge Morrow does not extend over as wide a period as many of his professional brethren, it nevertheless covers nearly twenty years of time, and was marked with some degree of intimacy. Comencing as a law student in his office I had unusual opportunity to observe his manners and method as a lawyer, his habits as a man, and his standard of professional ethics and conduct; and thereafter in the active practice of the law, in almost daily intercourse, both within and without the courtroom, I observed him closely, and he was to me a con-

stant inspiration and an object of admiration and esteem. His natural ability, his skill as an advocate, and his engaging personality won him a large clientage and made him easily one of the recognized leaders of the Wisconsin bar. For more than a quarter of a century his services were in almost constant demand, covering a large field of activity. For many years he was identified with nearly all important litigation in the western Wisconsin courts. It is speaking within bounds to say that during his long career at the bar he tried as many, if not more, cases, and tried them as well as any attorney within this state. His presence in an action was a tower of strength to his client and often brought hope to the despairing, and nerved the arm of the weak. To him life was a legal warfare and the courtroom his chosen field of action. There, amidst the clash of contending reason, he seemed to find his greatest pleasure and made his most enduring fame.

"Though eminently successful in the conduct of civil actions, trying with equal facility damage suits for railroad corporations, questions involving the complexities of tax title, and simple action of replevin for personal property; while apparently engaging with equal zest in an argument in the Supreme Court, in a trial to a jury in Circuit Court or a general scramble in justice court, it was as a criminal lawyer he made his greatest reputation. In the practice of the criminal law his triumphs were many, and there his greatest victories were won.

"While it could not be said of him, as Wendell Phillips once remarked of Rufus Choate, 'that the murderer, as he sharpened his knife for the fatal blow, first paused to inquire for the health of Rufus Choate,' yet it may be said that many an unfortunate malefactor trembling within the shadow of the penitentiary turned to him for help and found succor in the hour of need. Paradoxical as it may seem, however, even as a criminal lawyer, his reputation rests not so much upon the cases he won as the cases he lost. And for the same reason, doubtless, given by Justice Ryan to Judge Dixon, in answer always sought the highest order of talent. To my mind his principal characteristics were fertility of resources, tenacity of purpose, unfailing good nature, and abounding common sense. Though not learned in the law, in the sense of the great jurists of the past, and not gifted with the charm of eloquence that warps the judgment, ravishes the ear, he nevertheless possessed a knowledge of legal principles, an intuitive sense of equity, and a mastery of the practice and procedure, born of his enormous experience in the court, that frequently extricated him from desperate situations and snatched

victory from the very jaws of defeat. And as he marshalled his reasons and massed his argument, he sometimes seemed overpoweringly eloquent to the opposing counsel in the case.

"His tenacity in the trial of a case is a matter of common knowledge to us all. I can almost see him now, I can almost catch the echo of his voice as he stood before the jury, pleading for the righteousness of his cause. And when he appealed to the court for the exercise of its discretion, or contended for a debatable principle of law, he reminded one of Jacob wrestling with the angel, refusing to let go until he had received the blessing. He evidently proceeded upon the theory that courts, like the kingdom of heaven, were sometimes taken by violence.

"His serene good nature impressed everyone with whom he came in contact. It was the same quality that endeared Lincoln to the people and was the predominant trait of his character. With charity toward all and malice toward none, he seemed to regard the faults and foibles of his associates with good-natured tolerance, and to pity even while he condemned. His heart was void of envy and hate. We can all recall instances in the trial of cases when the relation between counsel and court was strained to the point of breaking, and the atmosphere of the courtroom surcharged with threatening storms, how by a timely word, a gesture, or a quick repartee, he cleared the air and scattered all ill feeling in a general laugh. Many times have I heard him say that he gave his client his skill and experience, but he gave no man his personal feelings. This principle governed his conduct. His quarrels he left in the courtroom, while his friendship he carried with him everywhere. And thus it happened that when he died his professional brethren felt a sense of personal loss and mourned his death with unfeigned sorrow.

"To some men are given talent, to others genius, but to few is given the saving grace of common sense. This he possessed in an uncommon measure. It marked his words and actions, and gave him broadness of mind and catholicity of spirit. This quality was impressed upon his work as a lawyer, and every case initiated and prosecuted by himself was sure to have elements of merit in law or in fact. It left its mark upon his administration as district attorney of this county, an office he held so many years, and his sound judgment made him not only an ideal prosecuting officer, but the trusted advisor of the county board. It is no disparagement of others to say that his conduct of this office is the standard whereby the people may measure the excellence of his successors and ascertain their worth. This same quality

stamped his brief career upon the bench, and had he continued to enjoy its honors, there is little doubt that his distinction as a jurist would have rivaled his fame as an advocate at the bar.

"But he was not alone a lawyer. The same qualities that gave his success at the bar made him a conspicuous figure in the field of politics, and for many years he was high in the councils of his party. He was honored with the nomination for attorney general, was chairman of its state conventions, and collector of internal revenue. And it is safe to say that had his lot been cast with the dominant political party he would have graced the halls of congress and left the impress of his ability upon our national life. As a citizen his life was worthy of emulation. He felt the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, and had a keen sense of civic pride. In all public enterprises making toward the betterment of the people and the progress of his city, county and state, he made his influence felt. He served the village as its president, and gave seven years of his time to the schools as a member of the board. He was not above holding the office of supervisor of his ward, and at times sat upon the county board as one of its trusted members. And to his influence in a measure is due the beautiful edifice wherein we commemorate his virtues this day.

"In this city and county he had passed his life and among his own people he passed away. His name was known to all its people, and by all he was well beloved. His form was a familiar figure on the streets, and when his death was announced it came as a shock and moistened many a cheek with tears. The community was in mourning, his family in tears, and the shadow of death settled over all like a pall. For of him, as of another 3,000 years ago, could it be said, 'There was sore lamentation for a great man had fallen in our midst that day.'

"The Persian writer Laasi tells the story of three sages—a Greek, an Indian, and a Persian—who once discussed before the Persian monarch, the question, 'Of all the evils incident to humanity, which is the greatest?' The Greek answered, 'Old age, oppressed with poverty.' The Indian said, 'Pain without contentment,' while the Persian answered, bowing low, 'The greatest evil I can imagine, your majesty, is the couch of death without one good deed of life to light the darksome way.' None of these evils were incident in his life. His age was not oppressed with poverty. He was not afflicted with pain and discontent. And knowing him as we do, we may confidently believe that the many noble deeds of his life, unrecorded and unknown, made luminous

his path, even in the darkness of the valley of the shadow of death, through which he made his solitary way."

Remarks by Judge O. B. Wyman: "In the death of the late Judge Joseph M. Morrow the profession has lost a learned, a skillful, a successful and an honest lawyer; the people have lost a prominent citizen and a safe counsellor and an able advocate; this beautiful city, that he delighted to call his home, whose streets he traveled for the greater part of his active life, and whose people he loved and served so well, has lost a warm friend, his neighbors have lost a genial associate, an enterprising and leading citizen; his family has lost a kind and devoted husband and loving and considerate father; this court has lost one of its prominent practitioners at the bar of justice, an attorney of recognized ability and integrity, possessed of extended experience and of acute legal knowledge and perception, and the sentiments expressed in the memorial, presented and in the eulogies pronounced by the gentlemen who have just spoken of his character, life and memory are endorsed by the court. From a professional as well as from the popular standpoint, he was a successful lawyer.

"The masses usually judge of a lawyer's capability from his ability to make a pleasing address to court and jury, or from his readiness at retort in the trial of cases in the forum of justice. The members of our profession judge of a lawyer's ability not from his use of language alone, but from his knowledge of the law, the great system of jurisprudence that has grown through the centuries past, formed in part from long-established custom and usage, in part from legislative exactments and in part from judicial decisions, for the purpose of guarding and securing the protection of life and property to all the citizens of the commonwealth.

"The profession judge of a lawyer's ability from his knowledge of the intricate rules and precedents of this system by which individual rights are maintained, and wrongs are redressed by his ability to draw correct pleadings, to make briefs, and to properly prepare for the trial of his case, his ability to examine witnesses and direct the testimony towards the controlling issues which determine the decision of the case at the trial, by his ability to eliminate from his pleadings, and from the testimony, the irrelevant and unimportant elements, and to clearly state and make prominent only the essential facts which pertain to the cause of action or to the defense, by his ability to concentrate his

mind, his mental strength and vigor upon the case in hand, so that his client may never suffer from inadvertance or failure to fully protect his legal rights, by his ability to advise his client fully and properly before he engages in litigation, as to his legal rights and the proper course to secure the same.

"From all these considerations, as well as the ability of the lawyer to make a pleasing address, is he judged by the members of his profession in considering the question of his qualifications, ability and success as a practicing attorney, and from all these standpoints it can truly be said that the late Judge Morrow was a capable and successful lawyer. It is a matter of common experience with all attorneys that they do not gain all the cases with which they are connected. In their contention for their client's cause they may sometimes censure courts and juries when the decision is adverse, still no client has just cause for complaint towards his counsel, when he has done his full duty in the management of the client's case.

"In Judge Morrow's extended career as a practicing attorney he did not always succeed in gaining his client's contention. Sometimes a client after the trial had ended would have to hear the bars of the prison door grate behind him, and be shut in from freedom of life for a term of years. But such unfortunate clients had the satisfaction of knowing that all legal and honorable means had been employed for his defense during the trial as conducted by industrious, competent and efficient counsel.

"Sometimes in the defense of civil actions after the legal proceedings were ended, a judgment for damages would be entered against the client for a legal liability shown to exist between the parties, but in such cases the client, if intelligent and fair-minded, well knew that the cause had been ably defended with legal talent and ability of high rank during the litigation of the case and that the facts and law entitled the recovery against him. In the practice of his profession many legal victories were won by his untiring industry, his knowledge of the law and his wide and extended experience in the trial of cases.

"He was ever known to be faithful to his client's cause, faithful to his client in the office as counselor, faithful to his client and to the court during the trial of the case, faithful in upholding the dignity and high standing of the profession of the law. He was successful in winning many a legal contest when opposed by able and eminent counsel, as the court records, the trial courts and our Supreme Court fully show. From a professional point of view, he was truly a successful attorney. He is

known to the legal profession and to the entire people of his extended acquaintance, not only to have been a skilled and successful practicing attorney, but he is known to have possessed the judicial temperament, the legal knowledge and ripe experience which, combined, eminently fitted and qualified him to preside over the court of this circuit to the general satisfaction of the entire bar.

"He was quick to grasp the controverted points in issue in the trial of causes as a judicial officer. He was ever kind, courteous and attentive to counsel at the trial of cases during his term upon the bench, and was ever governed by that high sense of honor and fair dealing that marked his career as a lawyer at the bar. He preserved and maintained the dignity and high standing that the court has theretofore long sustained, during the terms of his eminent predecessors upon the bench. He was an honest, conscientious, impartial and worthy judge. He possessed and cultivated the qualities of integrity and industry in the study and practice of his profession, qualities which, more than any others, marked his success as an attorney at the bar and a judicial officer. It is a mistaken idea, sometimes entertained, that lawyers succeed by tricks and artifice in the practice of their profession.

"The truly successful lawyer is as high above such devising schemes as the noonday sun is high above the horizon. Judge Morrow's marked success in the profession was gained by his continued practice of fair legal methods, by honest, upright dealings with his clients, with opposing counsel, and with the court. Such was his character, and he has left the rich heritage of an honorable career in the practice of his profession, extending to the day of his death over a third of a century in the courts of this state.

"In his family—ever kind and attentive to a loving wife and an affectionate daughter. In the church of his choice—a frequent attendant and attentive member and a liberal supporter. In the city of his chosen home—always among the leaders in advancing popular education, public interests and public improvements. He was public spirited on all occasions. He watched with pride the erection of this beautiful courthouse. With others, advised with the authorities having the same in charge, and on its completion was master of ceremonies at the formal opening.

"In reply to a remark made to him concerning the substantial manner in which the building was built with fireproof vaults, complete in all their parts and of sufficient capacity to safely keep the records of the county for years to come, he said: 'Yes,

this building will outlive us all.' The statement is likely true, but we little thought then that in so short a time he would be stricken down by the angel of death in the strength of his mature years.

"He was ever kind and considerate towards the unfortunate and his hand was often opened towards the relief of distress. His neighbors and friends in the community where he lived, the stranger whom he chanced to meet in the pathway of life, all learned to admire and esteem him for his genial social qualities, his kindly good nature, his sympathy for distress and his goodness of heart as a citizen. He will long be missed by his many friends—there will be a vacant chair at the sessions of this court —and in honor of his memory we here commemorate.

"It is ordered that the memorial presented by the committee of the bar be approved and spread upon the records of the court. The clerk is requested to present a copy of the same to the family of the deceased and to the local press for publication. Further ordered that court be now adjourned in respect to the memory of the late Judge Joseph M. Morrow."

ROMANZO BUNN.

Judge Bunn was born in Otsego county, New York September 24, 1829. He studied law at Elliottville, New York and was admitted to the bar at that place in 1853. He was married in 1854 to Sarah Purdy, of Rome, New York, and came to Wisconsin in September of the same year.

He stopped for a few months in the very small new town of Sparta, going from there to Trempeleau county where he entered a quarter section of government land. After living on this claim six months he moved to Galesville, then the county seat. He was elected member of assembly for Trempeleau county in 1859.

In 1861 he formed a law partnership with Carlton E. Rice, an old New York friend. He was soon after elected district attorney for Monroe county. In 1868 he was elected Circuit Judge of the then Sixth Judicial Circuit, comprising the counties of Monroe, La Crosse, Jackson, Clark, Trempeleau, Buffalo and Vernon, being re-elected in 1874 by unanimous endorsements of the bar of the district. This position he held until 1877 when he was appointed United States District Judge for the Western District of Wisconsin, succeeding James C. Hopkins, who died September 3, of that year. He held this position for almost thirty years, retiring January 6, 1905, at the age of seventy-five. During this time a vast amount of important litigation came before him, both in

his position of district judge and also as associate justice of the Court of Appeals; his duties in the latter position taking up a considerable portion of his time.

Judge Bunn took a leading position among the federal judges of the country. He occupied the bench during the period when federal jurisprudence was developing, and new and important questions were constantly coming up for decision. His opinions have been widely quoted and followed by the courts of other circuits, and successful appeals were taken from but a small number of his decisions. In the court room he was quick and decisive in his rulings, grasping the true point at issue and giving his decisions on that point alone. At the time of his retirement from the bench, Judge Francis E. Baker of the Court of Appeals said of him:—"He has shown the patience to hear with fulness and impartiality and the comprehension to understand the issues in all their bearings and the wisdom to find the right and the unfaltering honesty to declare and enforce it—not the common honesty that may have regard for what is the best policy, but the fearless honesty that dares to be knowingly unpolitic—these, I take it, are the attributes of a great and just judge."

Judge Bunn was for several years professor of federal jurisprudence in the law school of the University of Wisconsin, and for two years was special lecturer on the same subject in the law department of Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. He was a member of the Madison Literary Club, and frequently contributed to its programs. He was a lover of the English classics and a remarkably strong Shakespearian scholar.

His death occurred at his home in Madison, Wis., on the twenty-fifth of January, 1909, in the eightieth year of his age.

CHAPTER XX.

AGRICULTURE AND DAIRYING.

It took a good many years of experience and the efforts of some farmers more progressive than others of the general run to bring to the fore, as a commercial proposition, the dairying industry. Cattle, almost from the earliest settlement down to within the last fifteen years, were raised mostly for beef, with occasionally a "cheese factory" which would spring up and flourish for a time and then quit business, for the well developed farming of the East could more than successfully compete with the Middle West in "cream cheese;" every farmer who kept cows, made more or less dairy butter, usually a department presided over by the good wife, who presided at the churn and had her regular days for turning out butter for the market; but with the development of this section and the steady increase in population of villages and cities came the demand "more butter;" and with this demand from the markets developed the raising of better cattle, the establishment of creameries and the application of scientific modern methods to the making and marketing of butter.

Monroe county farmers have more than kept pace with other sections of the state, and the very profitable dairy industry has been highly developed in almost all parts of the country; farmers are and have been studying the breeds of dairy cattle; they send their sons to the university, some of them taking the short and some the long course in agriculture, and come out fitted to manage stock farms successfully. There are one or two associations of men who breed a certain kind of dairy cattle, and stock farms with modern sanitary barns and apparatus for handling milk and cream are found in every township; and not only that, but nearly every township has its creamery, generally a coöperative concern, owned and operated by the farmers in its vicinity, where butter fat is turned into cash with scientific regularity, and from this one industry alone has come a great increase in land values all over the county.

The early efforts in this line were isolated in different sections and no record is available of the amount of money invested in this great industry and its results, and not until 1908 was there

MAPLE GROVE FARM

any system in use for collecting information on the subject, but since that time the county clerk of each county is required by law to get certain information as to general agricultural matters and dairying and these reports for Monroe county are given in detail in this chapter. They show also an astonishing amount of progress in general farming lines and exhibit a most satisfactory condition, one which is alluring to the invester in farm lands, for beyond a question this county is rich in lands suitable for dairying and diversified farming and is fast developing into one of the richest counties in this great state, offering many opportunities to the farmer of pluck, intelligence and perseverance.

One glance at the following tables tells of progress and profit. For the year ending April 30, 1911, it will be seen that the total amount received from the dairy business alone was the enormous sum of $1,071,086.52; over a million dollars in cash. With eighteen creameries, worth nearly $50,000, in operation the year around, using the product of 25,871 cows, a record is made that established the county well to the front in this industry in comparison with other counties of the state.

Following are given the official tables covering this industry and farm products and property generally for each year, beginning with 1908:

CERTIFIED REPORT OF DAIRY STATISTICS.

1908—Number of creameries, 19; value, $39,950; number of patrons, 2,817; number of cows, 24,407; number of pounds of milk received during the year, 18,424,772; cream, 12,992,607; number of pounds of butter or cheese made of condensed milk produced during the year, 3,655,615; number of cheese factories, 2; value, $800; number of patrons, 33; number of cows, 460; number of pounds of milk received, 1,504,500; number of pounds of butter or cheese made, 14,000. Amount of money received for products sold during the year, $1,020,207.68 from creameries, and from cheese factories, $1,350. Number of pounds made on farms, butter, 60,800; value, $12,612; number of gallons sold other than that sold to creameries, cheese factories and milk condensing factories, 2,000.

1909—Number of creameries, 19; value, $48,331; number of patrons, 2,546; number of cows, $23,840; number of pounds of milk received during the year, 12,261,492. Cream, 12,330,556; number of pounds of butter or cheese made during the year, 4,188,145. The amount of money received for products sold during the year, $1,090,695.08. Number of cheese factories, 1; value,

$500; number of patrons, 16; number of cows, 180; number of pounds of milk, 523,099; number pounds of butter or cheese, 47,000. Amount of money received, $4,667.92; number of pounds of butter made on farm, 39,303; value, $8,379.40. Number of gallons sold other than that sold to creameries, cheese factories and milk condensing factories, 259,901.

1910—Number of creameries, 19; value, $42,590; number of patrons, 2,483; number of cows, 23,820; number of pounds of milk, 10,964,774. Cream, 7,581,792; number of pounds of butter or cheese made or condensed milk produced, 3,518,668. The amount of money received during the year, $959,763.19. Number of pounds of butter made on the farm, 86,350. Value, $22,274. Number of gallons other than that sold to creameries, cheese factories and milk condensing factories, 18,650.

1911—Number of creameries, 18; value, $46,795; number of patrons, 2,791; number of cows, 25,871; number of pounds of milk, 8,846,256. Cream, 27,819,573; number of pounds of butter, 3,728,634. Amount of money received for products sold during the year, $1,071,086.52. Number of pounds of butter made on farms, 20,929; value, $5,068.50; number of gallons sold other than sold to creameries, cheese factories and milk condensing factories, 2,931.

CERTIFIED STATEMENT OF CROP REPORT.

1908.

Number of bushels—Wheat, 43,862; corn, 463,275; oats, 1,028,-704; barley, 170,809; rye, 51,893; flax seed, 62; potatoes, 192,447; beans 66; cranberries, 6,587; apples, 15,319; strawberries, 21,051; raspberries, 2,744; blackberries, 3,868; currants, 15; grapes, 192; clover seed, 507; timothy seed, 91.

Number of tons—Sugar beets, 183; hay, 54,205.

Number of pounds—Tobacco, 648,869; hops, 300.

Acres harvested for seed—Clover, 264.

1909.

Number of bushels—Wheat, 46,527; corn, 512,469; oats, 1,153,803; barley, 263,475; rye, 50,397; flax seed, 180; potatoes, 167,109; beans, 233; cranberries, 2,989; apples, 10,789; strawberries, 19,840; raspberries, 2,043; blackberries, 3,396; currants, 2; grapes, 1,540; clover seed, 4,963; timothy seed, 308.

Number of tons—Sugar beets, 310; hay, 65,726.

Number of pounds—Tobacco, 555,700.

Acres harvested for seed—Clover, 3,004; timothy, 126.

1910.

Number of bushels—Wheat, 50,727; corn, 394,933; oats, 1,397,-192; barley, 333,888; rye, 57,899; flax seed, 360; potatoes, 230,238; beans, 88; cranberries, 12,845; apples, 42,583; strawberries, 16,-051; raspberries 1,915; blackberries, 4,031; currants, 16; grapes, 26; clover seed, 1,762; timothy seed, 186.

Number of tons—Sugar beets, 347; hay, 64,386.

Number of pounds—Tobacco, 519,700.

1911.

Number of bushels—Wheat, 55,619; corn, 458,482; oats, 791,673; barley, 186,777; rye, 64,566; flax seed, 145; potatoes, 263,429; beans, 748; cranberries, 4,905; apples, 326; strawberries, 6,652; raspberries 520; blackberries 1,109; grapes, 1; clover seed, 881; timothy seed, 3.

Number of tons—Sugar beets, 82; hay, 33,450; cabbages, 2.

Number of pounds—Tobacco, 203,260.

ACREAGE OF FARM CROPS, NUMBER AND VALUE OF STOCK.

1908.

Number of acres—Wheat, 3,036; corn, 22,795; oats, 42,987; barley, 9,720; rye, 5,056; flax seed, 117; potatoes, 2,165; sugar beets, 50; cranberries, 92; apple orchard, 555; strawberries, 334; raspberries, 58; blackberries, 369; grapes, 4; hops, 4; tobacco, 227; hay, 44,857; growing timber, 68,691; number of growing apple trees, 21,035.

Number and value of livestock—Milch cows 22,010, value $483,505; all other cattle 16,139, value $151,592; horses of all ages 9,343, value $627,369; sheep and lambs 13,251, value $39,-495; swine four months old or over 11,387, value $55,007.

1909.

Number of acres—Wheat, 2,906; corn, 21,557; oats, 45,092; barley, 13,154; rye, 5,166; flax seed, 83; potatoes, 2,604; sugar beets, 62; beans, 13; cranberries, 153; apple orchard, 591; strawberries, 334; raspberries, 63; blackberies, 76; grapes, 8; flax seed, 3; Tobacco, 244; hay, 46,172; growing timber, 77,605; number of growing apple trees, 22,044.

Number and value of livestock—Milch cows 22,164, value $483,076; all other cattle 16,883, value $190,939; horses of all

ages 10,065, value $711,671; sheep and lambs 14,222, value $50,070; swine four months old or over 8,190, value $52,327.

1910.

Number of acres—Wheat, 3,986; corn, 22,464; oats, 47,167; barley, 10,751; rye, 6,878; flax seed, 15; potatoes, 2,573; sugar beets, 34; cranberries, 149; apple orchard, 685; strawberries, 692; raspberries, 72; blackberries, 70; grapes, 2; flax, 20; tobacco, 153; grasses cultivated for hay, 43,328; growing timber, 82,892; number of growing apple trees, 28,303.

Number and value of livestock—Milch cows 23,752, value $555,229; all other cattle 16,307, value $190,273; horses of all ages 9,961, value $721,956; sheep and lambs 11,603, value $54,782; swine four months old or over 8,217, value $79,172.

1911.

Number of acres—Wheat, 5,074; corn, 27,584; oats, 45,820; barley, 10,656; rye, 11,608; flax seed, 23; potatoes, 2,495; sugar beets, 10; beans, 182; cranberries, 110; apple orchard, 696; strawberries, 448; raspberries, 76; blackberries, 90; grapes, 5; tobacco, 270; grasses cultivated for hay, 41,562; growing timber, 89,678; number of apple trees, 33,680.

Acres harvested for seed—Clover, 564.

Number and value of livestock—Milch cows 22,711, value $524,861; all other cattle 14,178, value $165,265; horses of all ages 10,366, value $803,882; sheep and lambs 10,559, value $34,074; swine four months old or over 8,815, value $61,203.

CHAPTER XXI.

APPLE INDUSTRY.

A great many years ago attempts were made in some portions of the county to raise apples with some measure of success, but the farmers of that period did not have the advantage which those of this day have in the benefit of scientific learning and instruction from the Agricultural college in connection with the University, which has investigated all sorts of subjects which are related to agriculture in any way, and a great deal of attention has been paid to the subject of apple raising, and as to whether or not the soil and climate conditions in this part of the state will permit of apples being raised on a large scale. In the earlier days alluded to, occasionally was found a small orchard which was planted by some farmer and just allowed to grow without any particular attention, except that in some instances the science of grafting was gone into when, perhaps, some man who has been familiar with the growing of apples in some eastern state knew the method of grafting apple trees; but that in no locality in the county was a determined effort made to raise apples as a commercial proposition, although many varieties were in fact raised of good quality and flavor, but with the lack of attention these little orchards gradually went into decay and the trees died off, more for the want of proper care and attention than on account of any conditions in the soil or climate.

With the awakening all along the line in agricultural subjects has come a movement in this county in the last few years to experiment with the growing of apple orchards, and with the great assistance which has been rendered by the agricultural department of the University, and also the officials of the State Horticultural Society, we are able in this chapter to record the result of experiments which prove beyond any question that within the limits of Monroe county there is just as good fruit lands as can be found anywhere in the United States for the raising of certain varieties of apples. The authorities of the University and of the Horticulture Society had their attention called a year or two ago to the orchard maintained by Mr. Fred Muehlenkamp upon his farm in the town of Wells, where this gentle-

man has seven acres of as fine apple trees as can be found anywhere. Some of the trees in this orchard were more than thirty years old and it originally was a small orchard, planted just as farmers planted twenty or thirty years ago; but for many years Mr. Muehlenkamp has made a study of the problem of fruit culture, paying particular attention to the raising of varieties of apples best adapted for profitable culture in this climate, and he is today a recognized authority on this subject. Particularly so with regard to tree grafting, and the result of his study and experiments are shown in his orchard, where there are many trees bearing more than one kind of apples, and some producing four or five different varieties.

Working in conjunction with the officers of the State Horticultural Society this veteran apple grower opened his home, which, by the way, is a fine brick mansion, upon his farm and invited all who desired to come to attend a field day fruit demonstration and meeting at his farm on August 23, 1911. Secretary Cranefield, of the State Horticultural Society, was present, together with D. E. Bingham, president of the socity; W. H. Hanchett, of Angelo, and a commission merchant by the name of Merrill, of Chicago, were present, together with about two hundred people from a number of different towns in the county. At this meeting addresses were delivered by the gentlemen named and by Mr. Muehlenkamp, and it was demonstrated not only by the orchard upon this farm, but in the addresses delivered at the meeting that there were no better lands and no better conditions anywhere in the United States for successful cultivation of apples than exist in Monroe county, especially on the ridge lands, which are well adapted for that purpose. It was shown that an average orchard ten years old, which is properly cultivated and cared for, could be depended upon to yield an annual income of $250 per acre, which is better than can be done with any ordinary crop at this time.

It is generally agreed that the most profitable varieties of apples to grow in this county were the McMann, Northwestern Greenings, Wealthy, Salome and Malinda; and as a matter of fact it had been shown that winter apples could be raised in this county and in various other portions of the state at prices which would more than successfully compete with the New York apples. This meeting gave to this industry a standing which was to the great satisfaction of those who were present, and undoubtedly the future will see good results from it. As the commercial advantage of having an orchard of several acres

properly cared for is so evident that the farmers, in the ridge country especially, will undoubtedly, in the future, give special attention to this branch of horticulture.

If anything else was needed to complete the demonstration and to establish beyond any question that apple growing in Monroe county can be successfully accomplished, and not only apples, but grapes, plums and cherries, it has been most conclusively furnished in the results accomplished by J. W. Leverich at his fruit farm in the town of Angelo. Mr. Leverich, who now is acknowledged one of the authorities on small fruits, started in 1904 an experimental orchard of five acres, which he planted in May of that year. In order to demonstrate to his own satisfaction whether these fruits, apples, grapes and cherries could be successfully raised if handled scientifically, his trees were selected with the greatest care and planted upon a piece of land which was carefully selected for the purpose, and his long experience in small fruit raising gave him the knowledge necessary to select the particular land which he did for this orchard. The tract is protected on the north and west by growing timber from the winds; to the south and east are hills which protect the trees from wind blowing from that direction. There are sixteen rows of fruit trees and two rows of grapes. The trees are set twenty-two in a row, and the two rows of grapes about four hundred feet in length each, in which there are seven distinct varieties.

At the time of setting this five-acre tract into an orchard in the spring of 1904, Mr. Leverich placed between the rows of trees either raspberries, red raspberries or blackberry brush. These berry brush have been thoroughly cultivated and cared for, as the trees and vines of the orchard were, and as a consequence there has been a crop of berries each year commencing with 1905. In 1906 the first returns from the orchard proper were secured, being ten baskets of grapes. The plum trees commenced bearing in 1907, and the apples in 1908, while the first cherries were secured in 1911, and it is the opinion of Mr. Leverich that this locality in the town of Angelo is not adopted to the culture of cherries. But his experiment has demonstrated beyond a doubt that the valley soil of Monroe county, as well as the ridges, is suitable and just as well adapted naturally for the culture of fruits as the ridge lands. It only needs the intelligence, industry and perseverance, which are, of course, all necessary in an industry of this character to put into a paying proposition an orchard bearing apples, plums and grapes. During the fall season of 1911 Mr. Leverich exhibited in one or two store

windows in the city of Sparta baskets containing the varieties of fruit and grapes raised in this orchard, and they made a tempting picture, indeed, and we here have the record which was kept by him from the time beginning with the planting of the orchard up until the market of 1911, showing in detail the number of baskets, cases or bushels, as the case may be, of fruit which was raised upon this five-acre tract of land from May, 1904, up to and including the crop of 1911, giving the total amount realized upon the entire tract:

BLACKBERRIES.

1905, 24 cases, $1.19 per case, $28.56; 1906, 152 cases, $1.47 per case, $223.44; 1907, 207 cases, $1.67 per case, $405.69; 1908, 288 cases, $1.59 per case, $557.92; 1909, 239 cases, $1.54 per case, $368.06; 1910, 124 cases, $1.93 per case, $239.32; 1911, 155 cases, $1.64 per case, $254.20. Total, 1,190 cases; total, $2,077.19.

BLACK RASPBERRIES.

1905, 54 cases, $1.21 per case, $65,34; 1906, 421 cases, $1.46 per case, $614.66; 1907, 305 cases, $1.60 per case, $488; 1908, 235 cases, $1.89 per case, $445.25; 1909, 145 cases, $2.05 per case, $297.25; 1910, 76 cases, $1.95 per case, $148.20; 1911, 111 cases, $1.56 per case, $173.16. Total, 1,342 cases; total, $2,231.86.

RED RASPBERRIES.

1905, 10 cases, $1.21 per case, $12.10; 1906, 154 cases, $1.47 per case, $226.38; 1907, 125 cases, $1.68 per case, $200; 1908, 215 cases, $1.75 per case, $376.25; 1904, 54 cases, $1.85 per case, $99.90; 1910, 10 cases, $1.98 per case, $19.80. Total, 568 cases; total, $934.43.

GRAPES.

1906, 10 baskets; 1907, 100 baskets; 1908, 200 baskets; 1909, 20 baskets; 1910, 10 baskets; 1911, 175 baskets. Total, 505 baskets, at 25c per basket, $126.25.

Cherries—20 cases, $1.50 per case, $30.

Apples—1908, 5 bushels; 1909, 10 bushels; 1911, 75 bushels. Total, 90 bushels, at 75c per bushel, $67.50.

Plums—1907, 5 cases; 1908, 30 cases; 1909, 50 cases; 1911, 130 cases. Total, 215 cases, $1.25 per case, $268.75. Plants sold, $500. Grand total of all sales, $6,235.98.

These figures are for cases of 24 pints each of blackberries and black and red raspberries, and 16 quarts of plums and cherries.

This tract being largely in the nature of an experimental orchard, Mr. Leverich has set in a greater variety of trees than he probably would have if he was to now set it out with the knowledge he now possesses after seven years of experimenting. Some of the varieties have done better than others, but it is not the object of this article to specify particularly in regard to that, but to tell of the orchard as we found it. It consists of the following trees, vines and berry brush:

Apples—88 Northwestern Greening, 44 Wealthy, 11 Tolman Sweet, 11 McIntosh Red, 11 Milwaukee, 11 Wolf River, 11 Scott's Winter, 11 Longfield, 11 Patten's Greening, 11 McMahan, 11 Duchess, 11 Plumb Cider.

Plums—22 Wyant, 22 Cheney, 1 Grittlewood, 11 Surprise, 11 Hawkeye, 11 Forest Garden, 11 DeSoto.

Cherries—11 Early Richmond. Total number of trees set, 352.

Grapes—20 Moore's Early, 10 Campbell's Early, 10 Brighton, 10 Concord, 10 Moore's Diamond, 10 Worden, 10 Wilder.

Berries—1,584 Eldorado blackberries, 2,575 Gregg black raspberries, 1,957 Cuthbert and Marlboro red raspberries. Total, 6,516.

The handsome returns of over $6,000 upon five acres of land certainly places this industry upon the footing with the lands anywhere, as those in Oregon and Washington, which sell as high as $2,000 per acre. The question arises as to how a person contemplating fruit growing should get anything out of his young orchard before it begins to bear apples, and the answer is here given most definite and positively, for between the rows of trees were raised bush berries to the value of $207.86 per acre, showing that the income begins almost at once with the very first year's planting by using the space between the rows, which should always be done for producing an income.

While at the time of the publication of this work this industry has not begun to develop to a great extent, there is no question but that this county is capable of supporting more than double its population, and that fruit raising and intensified farming will be in effect during the next decade, and will double and treble the varieties of fruit, and any farmer properly located who will study the question of apple growing will, undoubtedly, make it a success. But success will only come with study and the use of intelligent methods. Let us hope that the future generations may see Monroe county one of the garden spots of this country, rich in its products of apples, plums, grapes and other fruits.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE COUNTY SEAT WAR.

While the title "War" may seem perhaps a little harsh, it is used in the sense that it is commonly used today to designate a contest or a struggle for supremacy; for all along the years, ever since the county was first organized, we find running through the proceedings of the county board, cropping out at intervals, the disposition on the part of different portions of the county to remove the county seat from Sparta, and the disposition on the part of the inhabitants on the eastern side of the county, particularly, to use every means in their power legitimately to have the county government located at Tomah. This has been a cause of more or less bitterness between the two cities, but this finally has been allayed to a great extent during the last few years as the establishment of permanent buildings has almost made it out of the question that any move of the kind would now be considered. But it has been purely from a sense of loyalty to the home location and to the interests of the home town that this spirit has been manifested. This is entirely right and proper and has furnished a good many exciting incidents, both in and out of the sessions of the county board, at various times. It was manifested at the very outset in the organization of the county. While the bill was pending before the Legislature the citizens of Leon, which was then quite a little settlement, endeavored to have the county seat established there in the act which organized the county, and that is where the "war" began. Sparta people were up in arms and representatives were undoubtedly sent to the Legislature by both sides in the interests of the two different villages, but the Legislature in its wisdom finally decided that Sparta was the proper place for the county seat, and the law was passed making it such temporarily. But when it became necessary to spend money for county buildings the disposition to avoid erecting any permanent public buildings in Sparta, and undoubtedly with a hope that the future would bring some developments along the line of placing the county seat elsewhere, led members of the county board, particularly from Leon and

from the eastern side of the county, to vote down appropriations for this purpose and to put obstructions in the way of any such move. At the session of the county board held August 15, 1857, the absolute necessity for a county jail being apparent, the following resolution was introduced by Supervisor Esau Johnson, to-wit:

"Resolved, That we appropriate a sufficient sum of money to build a jail at Sparta."

Mr. Ringer, of Little Falls, offered the following amendment to the resolution, to-wit:

"That the amount termed be $1,500."

The amendment was lost by the following vote: Ayes—Huntley, Ringer, Isham, Alice, Stacy. Noes—Foster, Johnson, Miller, Gibbs, Butterfield, Lyon. The original resolution was then taken up and lost by a vote of the supervisors present, all of the members voting "no." W. W. Jackson, of Adrian, then offered the following resolution, to-wit:

"Resolved, That we deem the title to the ground on which the courthouse stands insufficient, and that we are unwilling to appropriate any money to the erection of any more buildings thereon," which was adopted by a vote of nine to five, and this ended the first round.

On November 26, 1859, at the annual meeting of the board of supervisors the following resolution was introduced:

"Resolved, That the sum of $1,500 be raised by the county to build a suitable jail for Monroe county, no part of said money to be expended until after a vote by the people of the county, be taken on a permanent location for county seat;" and this resolution on being put to yea and nay vote was lost by a decisive vote.

As has already been narrated elsewhere, the first county building was erected at the moderate cost of $600, in block 4 of Damman's addition to Sparta, and that this site was afterwards deeded back to Mr. Damman and the present block was selected by the county board for county buildings. The necessity for doing something to provide a courthouse came up at the meeting of the county board, which began on the 13th day of November, 1860. A committee on public buildings was appointed consisting of Peter DeCoursey, J. A. Gillman and W. T. Stevens, and the following resolution was presented to the board by Mr. DeCoursey:

"Resolved, That the sum of ——— dollars be raised by tax on taxable property of the county, to be applied in building a suitable building for a courthouse in and for said county." This

resolution was referred to the committee on public buildings and at a later date in the session the committee reported in favor of the resolution and J. E. Ensign moved that the blank in the report be filled by inserting $5,000. E. A. Rice moved an amendment striking out the figures $5,000 and inserting five mills on the dollar on the taxable property of the county. Mr. Rice's amendment was lost and after some parliamentary sparring Mr. Gillman offered an amendment that $4,000 be inserted in the blank, which was carried; and then E. A. Rice moved the adoption of the report, and strange to say it was lost by the following vote: Yeas—J. E. Ensign, Mead, Mathews, Gillman. Noes—Hanford, Campbell, Cole, W. T. Stevens, Tolls, Enderby, DeCoursey, Baker, Cary, G. F. Stevens, Haywood, Rowen and Rice, and the committee was discharged. Thus ended the third round. At that time there were nineteen supervisors on the board and the votes in favor of the courthouse came from the towns of Portland, Angelo, Eaton, Little Falls and the village of Sparta, and the votes against it came from Glendale, Wellington, Wilton, Ridgeville, Leon, LeRoy, Tomah (town), Adrian, Greenfield, Lafayette and, strange to say, the town of Sparta. It will be seen by the distribution of this vote that several localities still had hopes and the combination was quite strong against the village of Sparta. But the need of a courthouse and jail became, as time passed, a great necessity, and a move was made in 1863 to call a special session of the county board. A request having been signed by the majority of the board of supervisors a special meeting was called September 4, 1863, and met at the village of Sparta, at which the following resolution was presented by Mr. J. Covey, who was then the chairman of the county board:

"Resolved, That the district attorney be requested to report to this board in writing what title the county has to the site upon which the building now stands and which is used for a jail;" and this resolution, upon a vote, was duly adopted, and it was subsequently moved and carried that the district attorney be instructed to put in no defense to the suit of J. D. Damman against the county of Monroe to recover the site on which the jail now stands, and accordingly, as has been related, the county clerk was authorized to deed back the property, and at this meeting of the board a resolution was adopted by which the interests of W. F. Bard in the public square, opposite the Warner house, were to be purchased and have the same conveyed to the county. Soon after providing for the reconveyance of the old courthouse square back to J. D. Damman and providing for the purchase of

the public square, where the buildings now stand, the county board again adjourned without having made any provision for the erection of a building, but had gone to the extent of procuring a site. But at the regular session of the board that fall, which began on the 10th day of November, the matter was brought up and furnished ammunition for considerable debate and parliamentary tactics. Mr. J. Covey again offered a resolution, which was as follows:

"While the county of Monroe for want of proper public buildings has leased annually, at a large expense, a place for holding courts, and often to the very great annoyance of all parties concerned; that for the punishment of criminals a still greater outlay has been necessary, the present jail being wholly insecure, unwholesome and a disgrace to the age in which we have lived;

"Therefore, resolved, That there be levied on the taxable property of the county the sum of ——— dollars for the purpose of erecting a suitable building or buildings for a courthouse and jail.

"Resolved, That in order to carry out the foregoing resolution, lessen the burden of taxation that must necessarily arise from it, the sum of ——— thousand dollars be raised in the year 1863, the sum of ——— thousand dollars be raised in the year 1864, and the sum of ——— thousand dollars be raised in the year 1865."

It will be seen by the vigorous language used in this resolution even in this day the spirit of "reform" was in the air, and "progress" was not to be denied. Supervisor Kendall, in order to settle things, moved to fill the first blank in this resolution by inserting the sum of $22,500. This was seconded by Mr. Covey and the yeas and noes were called for. It will be remembered that at this time the county board system had been abrogated by the Legislature and that the system of county commissioners was then established and the affairs of the county were governed by three commissioners or supervisors elected from the three supervisor districts in the county. The board at this time consisted of E. Kendall, J. Covey and J. Rood. The vote on this resolution was Kendall and Covey in favor and Mr. Rood against it, so that it was declared carried, and then Kendall moved to insert the sum of $7,000 in the first blank in the second part of the resolution, and this was also carried by the same vote. Move was then made by Kendall to put the sum of $8,500 in the second blank in the resolution, which was carried by the same vote, and then also moved to put $7,000 in the last blank. Then the whole

resolution was adopted by the same vote: Kendall and Covey, yes; and Rood, no.

The raising of funds being thus provided for the building of the first real courthouse in the county. A special meeting of the county board was called December 16, 1863, at which the bids for the erecting of a courthouse and jail were opened, the matter having been previously advertised. The contract was let to one W. W. Allis for $20,848.50.

The erection of the combined courthouse and jail, which was a substantial brick building, settled the county seat matter for some years. With the increase in population and consequent increase in the number of prisoners, at times, the attention of the county board members was called to the fact that the jail was too small, was "behind the times" in appliances; so that the old spectre which would not down, "Remove the county seat," again raised its head and the trouble began. In 1883 and 1884 there had been considerable fault found with the oil jail by the State Board of Charities and Reforms, which correspond to the State Board of Control at the present time, and while no direct action has been taken to condemn the old jail portion of the building, still the situation became quite acute as far as the location of the county seat was concerned, and eastern Monroe county realized that in order to accomplish anything it was necessary that a move be made to call a special election, as provided by the statutes, to remove the county seat from Sparta before any more expensive buildings were erected, thus making it a permanent location. The citizens of Tomah in 1885 determined to make one grand effort towards getting the county seat removed to Tomah from Sparta, and a committee of citizens was appointed whose business it was to procure names to a petition addressed to the county board asking that an election be called, and that the question of the removal of the county seat from the city of Sparta to the city of Tomah be submitted to the qualified voters of the county, as provided by law. This work was undertaken in the spring and summer. A thorough canvas was made, particularly on the eastern side of the county, and feeling began to run high with regard to the matter as the time approached for the meeting of the county board. The session in November was made memorable by reason of the fact that this contest was then to be taken up. The members of the county board were at that time as follows:

Adrian, George P. Stevens; Angelo, E. W. Babcock; Byron, George A. Boyington; Clifton, A. N. Anthony; Glendale, Leonard

Johnson; Greenfield, J. H. Gill; Jefferson, A. Heiser; Lafayette, George E. Hanchett; Lincoln, L. N. Sweet; Little Falls, H. H. Atchison; New Lyme, J. B. Scott; Oakdale, H. Rogge; Leon, Thomas Hobson; Portland, E. M. Adams; Sheldon, D. M. Fulmer; Sparta, P. H. Moss; Tomah, W. B. Cassels; Wellington, J. P. Rice; Wells, James Wells; Wilton, F. Gnewikow; city of Sparta, H. H. Childs, N. W. Huntley, L. S. Fisher and W. E. Lee; city of Tomah, L. S. Benjamin, E. Bartels and I. H. Fish.

The session of the board opened with the lines tensely drawn upon this proposition, and it was not until Tuesday morning, November 17th, in the second week of the session, that the petition for the removal of the county seat was presented by L. S. Benjamin. It was as follows:

"To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Monroe county, Wisconsin: The undersigned legal voters of the county of Monroe, state of Wisconsin, whose names appear on some one of the poll lists on the last general election held in such county of Monroe, do respectfully petition your honorable body and ask that the county seat of Monroe county be changed from the city of Sparta to the city of Tomah, in said county; and that the question of the removal of the county seat be submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of Monroe county, as provided by law."

Dated September 1, 1885.

This petition was signed by about 2,400 names, and was referred to the committee on petitions and elections, Fred Gnewikow, L. S. Benjamin, E. Bartels, George P. Stevens and L. S. Fisher.

Prior to the session of the board the Tomah committee had circulated their petition over in the towns of Little Falls and New Lyme, procuring a goodly number of signatures. This paper mysteriously disappeared, or rather, was never presented to the board with the other petitions. A petition was also circulated in Glendale and Wellington and vicinity, under the charge of Leonard Johnson. When Johnson brought it to the board session the paper had been badly water soaked, Johnson claiming he had fallen in the mill pond with it in his pocket. The names on this paper were in many instances undistinguishable, and the committee, after working with microscopes, were compelled to discard a large number of names which were not legible. This, together with the petition that never was presented, discounted the number of names to such an extent as to make the action of the board, which followed, possible. No report was made by the committee upon this petition until the next to the last day of the session,

and then it came up for the final struggle in the shape of a majority and a minority report. The majority report of the committee was as follows:

"To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Monroe county, Wisconsin—Gentlemen: We, the committee to whom was referred the petition for the removal of the county seat of Monroe county, do report as follows:

"That we have carefully examined therein the signatures of 2,604 legal voters of Monroe county.

"That of such number the names of 2,107 appear on some one of the poll lists of the last previous general election held in said county on the 4th day of November, 1884, being more than two-fifths of the legal voters of said county of Monroe as determined by the poll lists of said last previous election.

"That under the law by reason of the said petition it is the duty of the county board of supervisors of Monroe county, to submit the question of the removal of the county seat of Monroe county to the city of Tomah, to a vote of the qualified voters of said Monroe county at the next general election.

"FRED GNEWIKOW,
"L. S. BENJAMIN,
"E. BARTELS,
"GEORGE P. STEVENS,

"Dated November 24, 1885. "Committee."

The minority of the committee, during the time which elapsed between the introduction of the resolution and the handing in of the majority report, had evidently been busy endeavoring to find a loop hole in the proceedings. The minority of the committee consisted of one man, that doughty old warrior, L. S. Fisher, who made the minority report to the petition as follows:

"To the Honorable County Board of Supervisors of Monroe county, Wisconsin: The minority of the committee upon the petition for the removal of the county seat would respectfully report that they have carefully examined the petition and find on it the names of 2,107 persons whose names appear on the poll lists of the several towns and cities in Monroe county for the election of 1884.

"The minority of your committee would further report in favor of a postponement of the subject of the removal of the county seat for the following reasons:

"1. There are several petitions, whereas the law requires only one petition.

"2. There are a large number of names appearing on the petition which have been counted by your committee in order to make the total number 2,107, not less than 300 in all that were not signed by the persons they represent.

"3. There are a sufficient number of names on the petition that have been counted that did not agree with the names on the poll lists to reduce the total number below the aggregate required by law.

"4. That if an election is ordered it would be void for the foregoing reasons and subject the county to unnecessary costs and probably expensive litigation.

"L. S. FISHER.

"Dated Sparta, November 24, 1885."

Mr. Fisher then moved that the report of the committee on petitions and elections be referred to the district attorney, and it was so referred with the understanding that the district attorney should report on the following morning.

The following resolution was then presented:

"Whereas the petition signed by 2,604 of the legal voters of Monroe county, of which number the names of 2,107 appear on some one of the poll lists of the last previous general election held in said county on the 4th day of November, 1885, said last mentioned number being more than two-fifths of the legal voters of Monroe county, as determined by the poll lists of the said last previous general election, said petition asking the change of the county seat of Monroe county from the city of Sparta to the city of Tomah; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the question of the removal of the county seat of Monroe county to the city of Tomah be submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of said county at the next general election, to be held in said county on the 2nd day of November, 1886."

The board then adjourned until the next day and on the morning of November 25th the district attorney gave his opinion in writing upon the petition presented for the removal of the county seat. While the records of the meeting of the board do not contain the opinion, it undoubtedly was in favor of the minority report, for we find that Mr. Fisher moved that the opinion be received and placed on file, and then came the tug of war.

Mr. Cassels, of the town of Tomah, moved that the majority report of the committee on petitions and elections be adopted. Mr. Fisher moved that the minority report be substituted for the

majority report, and upon the call of ayes and noes it was carried by the following vote: Babcock, Boyington, Heiser, Hanchett, Hobson, Atchison, Scott, Hannkee, Adams, Fulmer, Moss, Wells, Childs, Huntley, Fisher and Lee, a total of sixteen ayes. Noes—Stevens, Anthony, Johnson, Gill, Sweet, Spooner, Rogge, Cassels, Rice, Gnewikow, Bartels, Benjamin and Fish, a total of thirteen. Mr. Fisher then moved the adoption of the minority report, which was carried by the same vote precisely, sixteen to thirteen. It will be noticed that the votes which were against the petition came from Angelo, Byron, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Little Falls, New Lyme, Portland, Ridgeville, Sheldon, town of Sparta, Wells and city of Sparta; the votes in favor of the petition came from Adrian, Clifton, Glendale, LaGrange, Lincoln, Greenfield, Oakdale, town of Tomah, Wellington, Wilton and the city of Tomah, so that the votes were lined up with regard to location principally, only that George A. Boyington, of the town of Byron, did not vote with the eastern side of the county.

And after some other matters of business this board adjourned, and thus closed another chapter of the struggle over the county seat. It does not appear that the citizens of Tomah attempted in any way to invoke the aid of the courts or to make any further move at that time in the matter.

The proceedings were instituted under the provisions of section 655 of the revised statutes, and we find in the session of the Legislature of the year 1887 an amendment to that section was passed known as chapter 35 of the laws of 1887, which was, no doubt, a part of the plan to for all time settle the controversy as to the removal of the county seat in this or any other county. The amendment provided that where the county seat had been established for a period of fifteen years or more and that the county has erected permanent buildings of the value of not less than $10,000, that the same should not be removed nor should any application for the removal thereof be submitted to a vote of the electors of the county unless a petition signed by at least one-half of the resident freeholders of the county, as evidenced by recorded deeds in the office of the register of deeds of the county, in favor of such removal shall be presented to the county board; and it further provided that no election to change the county seat should be held for a period of five years after the year in which a courthouse or other county buildings costing $3,000 or more shall have been built and occupied for county purposes. In the provisions of this law it is not difficult to see the

"fine Italian hand," to use a slang phrase, of that staunch friend of Sparta, Hon. J. M. Morrow, who was at that time one of the "third house" in the Wisconsin Legislature and a prominent man in the affairs of the state. It can very readily be seen that a petition of this character cannot be obtained in the county of Monroe or any other county without great difficulty in searching records and procuring names qualified to sign such a petition.

The old controversy, however, would not down, and in 1890 the State Board of Charity and Reform, after considerable fault found heretofore with the old jail, issued an order condemning it as unsanitary and unfit for use for the purpose, and this caused the revival, somewhat, of the old feeling over the county seat. In order to bring it to a head a petition was circulated in the spring of 1890 and signed by a majority of the county board, calling a special meeting of the board on May 7, 1890. At that session the county clerk read a notice served upon him by the State Board of Charity and Reform regarding the jail, and on motion of Supervisor J. M. Morrow, a committee was appointed consisting of Supervisor Morrow; Earl, of Tomah; Gill, of Greenfield; Wells, of Wells, and Abbott, of Sheldon, and this committee on the following day rendered this report:

"To the County Board of Supervisors of Monroe County: The undersigned members of your committee, to whom was referred the official notice of the State Bard of Charity and Reform relating to the condemnation of the Monroe county jail, etc., have had the same and matters connected thereunto under consideration, and do report that in our opinion, and for the reasons stated in said notice, and the law in relation to the duties and obligations of the county under such circumstances, it is necessary to provide for a new jail, and to accomplish such purpose in a seasonable, proper and economical manner we have prepared and report herewith an ordinance providing for the construction of a jail upon the courthouse square, and providing for the means to pay for the same with such other necessary details as seemed to your committee required to be provided for the action of this board, and we recommend the adoption of said ordinance, which is respectfully submitted.

"J. M. MORROW,
"J. H. GILL,
"J. WELLS,
"E. ABBOTT,
"Committee."

Here again appears the same old split, but this time the majority of the committee were in favor of the western side of the county, and again we have the minority report by one man, Watson Earle, of the city of Tomah, who made a minority report as follows:

"The minority of your committee would respectfully report that in his opinion the effect of the improvements made in the jail last fall should be tried. The Board of Health, although they knew that the improvements were contemplated, could have no knowledge of what the effects of these improvements could be. That the condition of the jail is better than it has been at any previous time in twenty years. That the present condition of the farming portions of this county makes it advisable not to increase the burden of taxation without absolute necessity. For a number of years the crops have been wasted by drought, and now in the fall the markets are almost worthless by reason of low prices. Under these conditions the addition of $5,000 a year on this county's tax for three successive years is a grievous burden that ought not to be lightly laid. That the course of the present hasty action in this matter is purely visionary, being based not on the present condition of the jail, but on the assumption that at some time in the near future, perhaps, eastern Monroe county may demand the removal of the county seat; and that the number of prisoners which for the past year averages three and one-third per cent neither calls for nor justifies such expenditure."

And again the old struggle was before the county board in this form, and again it was Supervisor Fisher who moved the adoption of the majority report this time. Supervisor Wood, from the city of Tomah, moved to substitute the minority report for the majority report, and this brought on a test vote. The motion was lost by the following vote: Ayes—Stevens, Reynolds, Swanets, Lyon, Woodland, Coome, Rogge, Gehrke, Cassels, Gnewikow, Earle, Tormey and Wood, thirteen; and nayes, Leverich, Gill, Barry, Jones, Atchison, Hoard, Hannkee, Abbott, Beckler, Marsden, Wells, Morrow, Huntley, Fisher and Brandt, fifteen. The localities voting in favor of the minority report were these: Adrian, Byron, Clifton, Glendale, Lincoln, LaGrange, Oakdale, Ridgeville, town of Tomah, Wilton and the city of Tomah, and against it were Angelo, Greenfield, Lafayette, Leon, Little Falls, New Lyme, Portland, Sheldon, town of Sparta, Wellington, Wells and the city of Sparta, so that we find the alignment of this vote almost what it was as far as territory is concerned, when the vote on that famous county seat resolution

in 1885 was taken, only that this time Greenfield on the eastern side seems to have changed places with Byron.

Mr. Wood, of Tomah, then moved that the consideration of the majority report be postponed and an adjournment taken for two weeks so that the members of the board might have an opportunity to confer with their constituents, and upon a call for the ayes and noes this motion was lost by practically the same vote, thirteen ayes and sixteen noes. This time H. H. Cremer, it appears, voted with the noes. It was then moved to adopt the majority report, which was carried by the same old vote, sixteen to thirteen. An ordinance providing for the building of the county jail was then passed by the same vote, sixteen to thirteen, and the following committee, on motion, was appointed by the chair as required by the ordinance passed, as the building committee, to-wit: N. W. Huntley, of Sparta; H. H. Atchison, of Little Falls; J. H. Gill, of Greenfield, and William Hannkee, of Portland. Subsequently the building committee carried out its instructions in full, contracts were let and the present county jail and sheriff's residence was erected. As time went on the old courthouse building became more and more insufficient for the uses of the various county officers and courtrooms, and again the matter of additional county buildings was presented at a session of the country board. In 1894 an ordinance was introduced by Supervisor J. R. Lyon at the November session of the board providing for the building of a new courthouse in the city of Sparta to cost not to exceed the sum of $50,000. It was apparently a hopeless task on the part of the supervisors from the eastern side of the county to prevent the passage of this ordinance, and it was carried by a vote of twenty-five to five, Supervisor Coome being excused from voting. Later in the session, under the provision of the ordinance, the chairman of the county board appointed the following building committee: Supervisors N. W. Huntley, of Sparta; J. R. Lyon, of Glendale; H. H. Cremer, of Jefferson; H. Gnewikow, of Wilton, and D. W. Sowle, of Lincoln.

In pursuance of this ordinance the present courthouse was constructed and furnished. The county was fortunate in having it erected at a time when building materials were cheaper than at any time since so that for the sum of between $50,000 and $60,000 it has a commodious and substantial building, completely furnished.

The erection of these permanent buildings of such great value has probably ended for all time any effort to renew the "county seat war." The eastern side of the county has now become

reconciled to the situation, as was very appropriately expressed by a member of the board at the time the building of a new jail was voted, the boys in Tomah concluded that "they couldn't get the courthouse through the Tunnel anyhow," so they gave up. Many interesting incidents undoubtedly happened outside of the recorded procedure in this famous struggle during all these years which are now lost, but on the whole the record itself furnishes many dramatic climaxes which are lacking in the present day sessions of the county board.

CHAPTER XXIII.

THE COUNTRY SCHOOLS.

BY M. M. HANEY, COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT.

No history of the county would be complete that did not include at least a few references to the only source of education that most boys and girls have access to, namely, the common schools. No attempt will be made to go into an exhaustive record of the schools since the establishment of the county, but rather to give the reader an idea of the first schools in the county and the progress that has been made through legislation and methods, etc., up to the present time.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

As soon as a few settlements were formed the people began to make preparations for schools. The settlements were far apart at first and pupils were obliged to travel long distances, three, and even four, miles. The first school buildings were usually crude, temporary concerns, designed to meet the immediate needs of the people until the settlements became more numerous and financially stronger.

The following were among the early buildings which were more or less typical of the buildings throughout the county. District No. 2, town of LaGrange—School house, 12x16 feet; shed roof. District No. 2, town of Sheldon—Small building made of unhewn logs of uneven length, some extending two or three feet beyond the end of building. This building was roofed with slabs to match the logs, that is, some of them terminated at the edge of the roof and others projecting downward three or four feet, and some even projected upward above the ridge of the roof. This building was banked with clay about two feet high all around, except at the door, to keep out the cold. In order to save labor the banking was allowed to remain during the summer months so that it would be on hand for the next winter. The door was home-made and so low that full-grown boys and girls were obliged to stoop to get in and out. It is not known why the door was made this size unless it was to teach the pupils to stoop so

they might not forget to bow to the master on entering the building, or perhaps it was to teach them that they must stoop in order to avoid many hard knocks in life's journey. No doubt some of the first school buildings were better than those above described and some worse in some respects. Generally the first school buildings were small, cheap, poorly lighted, with no ventilation and little or no regard for appearances.

DESKS.

The desks were made of white pine and long enough to seat from twelve to sixteen pupils. In one school that the writer has in mind there were only two long desks in the school house. They were about sixteen feet long, extending lengthwise of the building, one on each side, with a seat in front of each desk for the little folks. The larger pupils occupied the seat behind the desks. Usually, however, the desks would seat from six to eight pupils, and extended crosswise of the room. Arranged in two rows, with one end of each desk against the wall, leaving only one aisle in the middle of the room. This arrangement made it very unhandy to get and out of seats, as the pupils frequently were obliged to pass four or five others in order to get out of their seat to go to the recitation and, of course, go through the same process to get back to their places. The desks were all of the same size, no allowance being made for different sizes of pupils.

Later the desks were made to accommodate the various sizes of pupils. A few samples of those desks may still be found in the schools, but most of them are factory made double desks, and even those are giving way to the single desk.

SUBJECTS AND METHODS.

Reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling were carried by all of the pupils, and grammar, geography and history by some of the larger ones. In teaching reading the A, B, C method was used, that is, the pupils had to go through the long, tedious process of learning the alphabet before they began to read. Spelling was mostly oral and at least two trials were given on a word. Since the pupils did not carry many studies they made up for this to some extent by reciting in reading and spelling four times a day. Some schools had reading of the Bible and prayer every morning. History was sometimes used as a reader, the teacher asking a few questions after the lesson was read. Pupils that read in the history were looked upon by the other pupils as being

good scholars. There was no classification of the school by forms or grades, and as a rule no record was kept of the work done by the pupils, and of course no record left for the guidance of the new teacher. Not unfrequently the pupils were started in at the beginning of the books they brought with them the first day, regardless of what they covered the year before. This seems like a great waste of time, and it was, but there was one redeeming feature, namely, that some subjects were reviewed so often that they were firmly fixed in the pupils' minds. Perhaps manual training should have been added to the branches taught in those early days.

This was pursued by the larger boys who happened to possess good pocket knives, without the aid or consent of the teacher. The white pine desks being excellent material to carve in, pupils would sometimes cut the forms of horses and other objects in the desk and carve their names also. This, of course, was not sanctioned by the teacher, yet it was common to find desks bearing such marks.

APPARATUS.

The inside of the school buildings as a rule were in keeping with the outside appearance. There was no library or reference books of any kind. Webster's unabridged dictionary was the only book outside of texts, and that was furnished free by the state. There was usually a partial supply of maps, and occasionally a reading chart. The blackboard was composed of boards nailed together and painted. This was as a rule poor in quality and very insufficient in quantity. A piece 3x4 feet was all that some schools had. Ciphering and sometimes writing exercises were performed with slate and pencil. It was a rare thing to see a pupil using pencil and paper.

TEACHERS BOARDING AROUND.

During the first ten or fifteen years after the county was organized, the teachers boarded around, that is, the teacher boarded free of charge with the various families in the district that sent children to school. The teacher stayed with each family in proportion to the number of pupils that attended school, usually one week for each pupil. Boarding around had some advantage over the present system, as it afforded the teacher an opportunity to get acquainted with the parents and home life of the children, thus enabling the various parties to understand each other better. The parents and pupils looked forward to the

teacher coming as an important event, and you may be sure the teacher got the best the family afforded. But there was another side to the boarding around that was not so pleasant for the teacher, namely, the accommodations were not always what was desirable and the teacher was expected to entertain or be entertained to such an extent that she had little time that she could call her own or devise plans for presenting the various subjects. The teacher was looked upon as the most important personage in the district, and no wedding or other social event was considered complete unless the teacher was present. The teacher was supposed to be the best informed person in the whole district. The following lines from the "Deserted Village" portrays the opinion of his knowledge held by the country folks:

" 'Twas certain he could write and cipher, too;
Lands he could measure, terms and tides presage,
And e'en, the story ran, that he could gauge;
In arguing, too, the parson owned his skill,
For e'en though vanquished, he could argue still;
While words of learned strength and thundering sound,
Amazed the gaping rustics ranged around;
And still they gazed and still the wonder grew,
That one small head could carry all he knew."

TOWNSHIP SUPERINTENDENTS.

The schools of each town were in charge of a man known as township superintendent. The duties of the town superintendent were to supervise the schools and grant licenses to teachers. Those officers were usually paid $1.50 a day when in service of the town. The teacher's examination comprised much fewer subjects than at the present time. The examination was mostly oral with enough writing to give the applicant an opportunity to show her writing. This system was abolished in 1862 and the county superintendency established.

TEACHERS AND WAGES.

In those early days there were a much larger proportion of male teachers than at the present. The male teachers, as a rule, taught only the winter term and did not make teaching a business. The spring terms were usually taught by ladies. As a rule the teachers of this early period were not up in professional and academic knowledge with the teachers of the present time, but

from the standpoint of maturity they were ahead. They were men and women, as a rule, out of their teens. The frequent change of teachers and poor attendance were among the main obstacles to progress. Wages varied very much as at the present time. They ranged from $1.50 a week to $16 or $20 a month, and the teachers boarded around and taught every other Saturday. In some instances the wages were as high, or higher, then as at the present time, but those were exceptions.

MODES OF PUNISHMENT.

In the early history of the county school government was a much bigger proposition than it is today. This was due to several things, namely, to size of pupils, lack of sufficient employment, and to the general attitude of the people regarding punishment. In those days boys and girls attended school, especially during the winter months, until they were grown up, eighteen and twenty years of age. Many of them carried only a few branches, and of course were not busy all of the time, and therefore were harder to control. Then, too, many of the parents seemed to think that punishment was a necessary part of the child's education, and in some way a knowledge of the "three R's" should be seasoned and worked into the individual by a liberal use of the rod. The words:

"School days! School days!
Dear old Golden Rule days;
Reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic,
Taught to the tune of a hickory stick,"

were based on the methods and beliefs of those days. The schoolmaster that did not do considerable punishing was not thought to be doing his full duty. However, many of them measured up to the expectations of the district. As a rule there was plenty of timber near the schoolhouses and the teacher usually knew enough about foresting to be able to select the toughest switches, and he knew also that by laying them on the heated stove for a while it would add to their elasticity. Several of these well-seasoned switches were generally on hand and placed in a conspicuous position, usually over the blackboard. Sometimes those switches would mysteriously disappear and no one could account for their whereabouts. However, a new supply was easily secured, seasoned and put up. Should the master's supply of switches become exhausted during the session periods

of the day, he would sometimes send one of the small boys after a new supply.

The prevailing method of punishment was striking with the rod on the palm of the hand and on the finger tips. This was rather severe and much dreaded by the small and middle-sized boys, for the boys got most of the punishment. But to the full-grown boys it was considered a game in which it was the teacher's part to strike, and the boy's part to catch the rod before the teacher pulled it back. If the rod was caught it was broken and then the stub was used, and the game went on till the rod became too short. It is only fair to say that the above methods of bringing the refractory pupils to time was practiced chiefly by the male teachers, but was by no means unknown to the gentler sex. About the most dreaded punishment meted out to the boys was to have a boy sit between two girls for an hour or so. This would cause the bashful country boy to blush profusely, and usually it was not necessary to repeat the punishment very soon. The following lines illustrate this fairly well:

"Some playful wight perchance was doomed to sit
Between two girls, as retribution fit
For his crimes; and so he learned e'en then
The truth that comes in time to all young men:
'Tis more than twice as hard for Adam's son
To sit with two girls as to sit with one."

Other methods of punishment which were more or less general, were pulling the ears, slapping the face, and taking by the collar and given a shaking, etc. Corporal punishment seemed to be more freely used at home and at school than at the present time. Those having the training of children in charge have found out that it is possible to train children properly with little or no corporal punishment. Perhaps it should not be dispensed with all together, but should be rarely used.

It is possible in most cases to keep a pupil under control through fear, but that is not the proper way, for it destroys the confidence and affection the pupil should have for the teacher, without which it is impossible to get the best results. The good teacher who possesses sufficient knowledge and ability to teach and whose heart is in the work will generally have no difficulty with government. On the other hand the teacher who is unable, on account of academic or professional knowledge, to interest her school will find government quite a problem.

SPELLING SCHOOLS AND DEBATES.

One feature of the country school that has about gone out of practice is the old-fashioned spelling school. These spelling schools were held frequently during the winter term, and were participated in by old and young alike. Sometimes one school would spell against another, but occasionally two persons were appointed to choose sides, regardless of schools, and everyone in the room was given an opportunity to spell, but only those that considered themselves good spellers accepted. Those in the contest would take a position by the side of the leader and two lines were formed that would reach around the room.

Those that missed took their seats and of course the one that stood last won. Usually the winner was expected to spell three words after the others were down. After the spelling contest there were reading and speaking. The spelling school was looked upon as quite a social event and was attended by people for miles around. Another means of enjoyment and intellectual improvement were the debates which were usually held during the winter terms also. The questions were usually practical and simple.

The men and large boys took part in the discussions. The interest taken in those discussions may be shown by stating that it was common for people to walk three or four miles to hear and take part in the discussion. Many a farmer and town official will own today that the foundation for expressing his thoughts clearly, to think logically when standing before people, was laid in the old-fashioned debating society. A literary society in which debates receive a prominent part should be a part of every country school where there are a sufficient number to carry it on successfully.

TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES.

During the early history, as has been stated before, about the only book found in the school house outside of the text books, was Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. In 1887 there was enacted a township library law. This law provided that 10 cents should be reserved from the school fund for each pupil between four and twenty years in the district, the money to be used in purchasing books. But for the first eight years of this law it was optional with the town treasurer whether or not the money was set aside for this purpose.

Many of the treasurers did not see fit to do this and for a while the growth of the district libraries was slow. In 1895 the law was made mandatory and since then there has been a rapid

addition to the number of books in the libraries. Until about seven years ago the town clerks had the power to select the books and since that official usually did not know just what books to select, he did not always make the best selections and there were many duplications.

The county or district superintendent now makes the selection for all the schools under his jurisdiction. He usually asks the teachers to recommend the books they desire and by this method suitable books are generally procured. At first the law provided that the books pass from one district to another so that all the pupils might get the benefit of the books. This was nice in theory but did not work out so well in practice for no one felt or could be held responsible for the books and the card catalogue would be ineffective.

Now the books are selected for the needs and conditions of a particular district and are not changed. It is really a district system now, but the name township is still retained. When the library books were first introduced in the schools, as a rule there were no book cases and the books were kept at the district clerk's home, a part or all of the time, which, of course, was not satisfactory.

Now every district has a book case and the books are left in the school house. There is a card catalogue made of the books so that the material they contain is available. These libraries, besides being available for reference work in connection with various subjects, contain interesting and instructive stories for all grades of pupils and also for the adult population of the district. Under the township library law, Monroe county spends about $1,000 a year for library books.

These books are distributed among the 145 districts of the county in proportion to the number of children between four and twenty years in each district. Each district has a library ranging from seventy-five to 200 books. The thing needed now is to make better use of these books, both for reference and general reading and develop in the boys and girls a desire for good reading.

SCHOOL BOARD CONVENTION.

In 1905 there was a law enacted requiring each county superintendent to call a convention of the school board members of county annually. About every district in the county was represented in those conventions, and in addition to the local pro-

gram, the state educational department always sent a man to discuss one or more subjects chosen by that department.

Those conventions have proven to be a very important factor in improving the rural schools. They have been the means of acquainting the board members more fully with their duties, powers and responsibilities, have increased their interest in the schools and emphasized the importance of sufficient apparatus, and the necessity of obtaining good teachers. These meetings were held in school buildings that were models with respect to seating, black boards, light and general apparatus, thus giving a good idea of suitable building and equipment. These meetings also helped standardize the schools of the county. At first some objected to the law on the ground that it was a useless expense without producing any good results, but time has proven that the objections were unfounded. There is no question whatever regarding the benefit of this law and the trifling cost of the districts is insignificant when compared with the benefits.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW.

For a great many years there has been a compulsory school law, but until recently it has been practically a dead letter, for the reason that the school board was to enter complaints against parents or guardians that were not sending their children. The board was not compelled to report and there was no penalty for not reporting, and for the further reason that the board did not like to make enemies of their neighbors by informing on them, they did not report. About five years ago the Compulsory Attendance Law was changed and made it the duty of the teacher to enter the complaint instead of the school board. It is mandatory on the part of the teacher to enter the complaint, with a penalty if it is not done. At present pupils between seven and fourteen years and not more than two miles from the school house by the traveled road are required to attend school at least six months.

Pupils between fourteen and sixteen years must attend the same time unless they are regularly employed. The law, as it now stands, is quite effective and has been the means of giving many neglected children the opportunity of attending school.

Yet the law is not enforced as rigidly as it should be, and many live over the two-mile limit and can not be reached. During the time this new law has been in force many parents have been notified by the truant officer, the county sheriff, to send their children, but there have been no prosecutions. It is not

clear to school people why any parent could be so indifferent to the future welfare of his children as to deny them the opportunity of a fair chance in life by neglecting to give the benefits of the free common schools.

IMPROVEMENTS IN METHODS OF TEACHING.

There is quite a contrast between the old methods and those of the present time. For instance, the child was obliged to go through the slow and tedious process of learning the alphabet, A, B, C's, before beginning to read. These letters were to be learned in order, backward, and in a promiscuous arrangement. Then the pupil was taught to pronounce short words of one, two and three letters.

This lacked interest also because the words were usually abstract and meant nothing to the child. Yet boys and girls learned to read by this unpedagogical system. Now the child begins to read by being introduced to a familiar word representing an object as—apple, ball, etc., or perhaps the word is used in a sentence, as "Roll the ball," and the child acts it out by actually rolling the ball on the floor or on the teacher's desk; thus making the reading interesting and instructive from the start. The books for primary children, especially the readers, have been greatly improved and made more interesting for little folks. The old text books were written mostly on the question and answer plan, and if the pupils gave the answers, they were not usually asked to go into an explanation as to the meaning. There has been quite an improvement in text books as well as in the methods of teaching.

CLASSIFICATION BY GRADES.

Years ago the pupils' scholarship was determined largely by the number of the "Reader" that he read in, and if a boy was asked how far he was in school he would answer, "Third Reader" or "Fourth Reader," as the case might be. Later there was a course of study gotten out by the state which divided the work of the schools into three parts, called forms, and were known as the primary, middle and upper form.

This was quite an improvement on the old way and led to a more definite classification of pupils and better records of the work done by the individual popils and was also the means of having the pupils take up more of the branches in the course. In 1906 the graded system was introduced. This system divides the course into eight parts called grades, and it is supposed that

an ordinary pupil, that is, a pupil of average ability, good health, that attends regularly and studies well, will be able to complete a grade in a year and finish the course in eight or nine years.

This is more definite than the three-form system, because it marks off the course into years instead of bunching it into three-year parts. This system is the same as is used in state graded schools and in the grades below the high school, and is nothing new. The graded system works nicely in the country schools of the county. It is especially helpful to the young and inexperienced teacher, and makes the work more definite for all, besides pupils moving from one district to another can readily find their place in the new school. The graded system is not yet generally adopted by the counties of the state. In fact, it is not known that any of them outside of Monroe county uses it. However, it is believed that it will be generally adopted before many years as the manual of the course of study outlines some of the work by years which is about the same thing. A year's work corresponding to a grade.

FREE TUITION FOR THE COMMON SCHOOL GRADUATE.

Some twenty years ago a law was passed which permits pupils holding common school diplomas to attend any high school in the state free of tuition. That is, the pupil did not have to pay it, but the town in which the pupil resides pays the tuition, which is $2 a month. This free tuition law stimulated many country people that would not have done so if they had to pay the tuition directly, to send their children to high school. Thus it may be seen that many a boy and girl get a high school education through the merits of this law.

HEATING AND VENTILATING SYSTEM.

About four years ago a law was passed offering each school $50 each year for three years on condition that the district would make certain improvements in apparatus, chief among them was to put in an approved heating and ventilating plant. It was claimed for this system that it would heat the room uniformly and keep the air fresh.

Whether those plants will heat as quickly and as cheaply as the injacketed stove is a question that there is a difference of opinion on. However, it is certain that the ventilation is much improved and the room more healthful and conditions for study much better. Nearly every district in the county took advantage of the law which shows that board members

were ready to make use of opportunities for the betterment of the physical and mental development of the children. While these plants are not doing all that was claimed for them and the usual unfair means and misrepresentations were practiced in many cases in order to make sales, the law has proven very helpful for it has been the means of supplying necessities to the school.

WRITING.

One of the most important subjects and the one that has received the least attention or no attention at all is penmanship. Neither the time nor the attention has been given to this subject that it merits. There are several reasons for this but the chief one is that the teacher has received no special training in this subject and, of course, could not impart knowledge that she did not possess. Usually ten or fifteen minutes was devoted to writing each day but as there was no system to follow, it was turned into a go as you please exercise. Yet in spite of lack of method of system, many developed into fairly good writers. For a couple of years this subject has received its share of attention at teachers meetings and institutes which has paved the way for the free arm movement which is being introduced, and it is hoped that the school will turn out easy legible writers. To be a good writer is quite an accomplishment and any one that has proper control of his muscles, can by careful practice under proper instruction come into possession of this art.

The school of today compared with the school of twenty years ago.

The school year has been lengthened at least one fourth. The building, apparatus, and general equipment are much improved.

The teachers on the whole are better prepared academically and professionally, although many of our teachers are too young to shoulder the great responsibility that they undertake; in fact some of them do not realize the enormity of the undertaking. Years ago it was common to find young men and young women attending school especially in the winter months.

Now if you would travel the county over, you would not find any full grown boys and girls in attendance. The average pupil of 12 and 13 years of age today is as far advanced as the 18 and 20 year old pupil was 20 years ago. But where are those boys and girls 14 years of age and upwards? They are

not in the country school; some of them are in the high school but most of them are out of school altogether. It is to be regretted that the boys and girls leave the country school so early. Our whole school system has been severely criticized lately and the common schools came in for their share and no doubt it was coming to them. Yet the country teacher with her multiplicity of duties has more to do than any one person can do well. She must be janitor, nurse, disciplinarian, and mediator, besides teaching all the branches.

The teacher that can do this fairly well is the best of teachers, and it may be said without successful contradiction that the country school gets better returns for the amount of money invested in education than any other school in the state.

CHAPTER XXIV.

INSANE ASYLUM AND HOME FOR THE POOR.

The caring for the poor and insane of any county is a problem to which should be brought to bear level headed business ability in addition to the mere fact of providing for the needs of such unfortunates; that this department of municipal affairs in this county has been managed with business acumen having in view the best interests, not only of the poor and insane people, but the welfare of the community at large; and a policy inaugurated which accrues to the benefit of the taxpayers is very apparent. In 1871 the condition with regard to the support of the poor had become so hard to handle without a central home or place where some of these people could be cared for, that the then county board was compelled to consider the purchase of a farm to be used as a home for the poor, and as has been stated in a former chapter the farm of David Cole of two hundred acres, situated in the town of Adrian, was purchased in that year for the sum of $5,000, but as the county grew older and the population more dense the natural increase of the burden of caring for the poor, so developed the fact that this farm was in a poor location, being quite a distance from the county seat, and the buildings were too small for the accommodation of those requiring assistance; the county board finally authorized the sale of the farm and purchased one lying just north of the city of Sparta and in the town of Sparta, a very advantageous location with a beautiful building site, upon which was erected in 1900 a large brick home for the poor with modern conveniences at a cost of about $11,000. It became evident at this time, as the matter had been discussed considerably before, that the number of insane with which this county was chargeable, being cared for in other institutions including several county asylums, was rapidly increasing and the burden of expenses was growing quite rapidly; a committee had been previously appointed to investigate the subject of a county asylum and its report created quite a strong sentiment in the county that it would be advisable for this county, having the approval of the

MONROE COUNTY INSANE ASYLUM AND ALMSHOUSE

State Board of Control, to build a county asylum for chronic insane. The proposal was made to change the poorhouse then erected, to an insane asylum, and to subsequently erect another home for the poor upon the same farm. After considerable agitation in which the two sides of the county were arrayed against each other the proposition finally was carried out and in 1902 another home for the poor was erected on another part of the farm near the asylum. The farm had been enlarged and improved since then by the purchase of an additional 120 acres of land and by the erection of a separate heating plant and also of a complete water works system which was put in in 1907; this system consists of a steel tower ninety feet high with an eighteen foot tank on the top with a capacity of 50,000 gallons, standing on a solid concrete foundation, and from it run six-inch pipes for the asylum and for the poorhouse and and barns and out-buildings, and in connection with it is a power house having a large Gould pump of ten horse power and the Westinghouse electric motor. The barns are all of the most modern construction and a herd of dairy cattle is maintained upon the farm which is kept in the highest state of cultivation and now produces a good income. Before the adoption of this system the county was compelled to pay $3 a week for the maintenance of each person charged to it in any of the institutions to which they were committed, but, of course, a portion of this was returned by the state; almost from the very outset it became apparent that the establishing of a county asylum was a good business venture, for not only were the patients coming from this county gradually sent here, but patients from other counties are committed to this asylum for which the county receives the regular amount chargeable by the law for the maintenance of such patients. The income of the institution from the farm and from other sources has gradually increased, outside of the appropriation made by the county board, so that the receipts of the sale of produce from $794.71 in 1904 increased to $2,615.58 in 1911 and at the last report of the trustees for the year 1910-1911 made in November, 1911, it is shown that the permanent investment in and about the asylum is as follows: Farm, $23,000; buildings less 2%, $29,472.52; live stock, $5,715.50; tools and implements less 10%, $1,449.86; furniture and furnishings less 10%, $1,775.88; making a total of $61,415.76.

The home for the poor is a comfortable brick building capable of housing thirty inmates; heated by steam and lighted by electricity, with modern conveniences, surely a home better

fitted, by far, than the great mass of people of the county are able to afford; the asylum at the last report had a total population of forty-five male and twenty-eight female patients. Mr. F. J. Mooney, present superintendent, and his wife the matron have conducted this institution very successfully for the last nine years, and under Mr. Mooney's management the farm has been brought to a high state of cultivation and is a model institution; some of the patients assist in carrying on the farm operations and it is considered a good thing to have them busily employed when they are able, under the proper supervision. During the years of the existence of this institution for the insane the amount of the appropriation which the county board makes has gradually decreased from $5,000 to about $2,500 and below is given a little list of the receipts and expenditures, beginning with 1902, showing simply the gross amounts.

1903.

Year ending October 1st: Receipts from the county board appropriation, $4,500; produce from farm to April 1, 1903, $108.69; error in invoice, $42.19; balance on hand in county treasury November 1, 1902, $165.63. Total, $6,301.51. Expenditures, total of $4,632.81; leaving a balance on hand October 1, $1,668.70.

1904.

Earnings from the state to July, 1903, $810; receipts from produce, $794.71; receipts from other sources, $1,869.67; total, $3,474.38; appropriations from county board, $5,000; balance in asylum fund, $85.34; making a total of $8,559.72; total of expenditures, $7,128.25; leaving a balance of $1,431.47.

1905.

Receipts—Balance of last report, $1,431.47; earnings from state, $4,233.31; sales of produce, $548.25; collection from other sources, $575.01; balance in the poor fund for maintenance of the home for the poor, $1,434.41; making a total of $8,248.45; total expenditures, $6,850.90; leaving a balance on hand of $1,397.55. This report shows that the cost per capita of the inmates is $1.99⅓ a week.

1906.

Receipts—Balance on hand from last report, $1,397.55; earnings from the state, $4,587.05; collection for district attorney, $244; sales of produce, $599.28; maintenance of poor home,

$1,497.94; expenditures, $7,550.42; balance on hand, $775.40. This report shows a cost per capita of the inmates of $2.01⅓ a week.

1907.

Receipts—Balance on hand from last report, $775.40; earnings from the state, $5,794.16; collection from district attorney, $278.14; Citizens Insurance Company, $26; sales of produce, $1,207.69; maintenance of poor home, $1,712.77; total receipts, $9,794.16; total expenditures, $9,459.63; balance on hand, $334.53. Cost of maintenance per capita $2.22 per week.

1908.

Balance on hand last report, $334.53; earnings from the state, $5,469.40; collection from district attorney, $3,483.60; sales of produce, $1,092.27; maintenance of poor home, $2,122.98; total receipts, $12,502.78; total expenditures, $11,456.96; balance on hand, $1,045.82. Cost per capita per week, $2.72.

1909.

Balance on hand last report, $1,045.82; earnings from state, $5,424.20; collection from district attorney, $764.75; sales of produce, $1,526.40; maintenance of poor home, $1,978.22; total, $10,339.59; total disbursements, $11,758.04; balance overdrawn, $1,418.45.

1910.

Receipts—Cash received from state, $6,498.94; cash received from farm produce, $2,392.96; appropriation by the county board, $3,000; special appropriation, $300; cash for maintenance of poor, $2,576.09; cash miscellaneous, $461; total, $15,228.99; total disbursements, $15,617.17; balance overdrawn, $338.18.

1911.

Receipts—Cash received from state, $5,663.76; received from sale of farm produce, $2,615.58; appropriation by the county board, $2,500; special appropriation, $1,715; cash for maintenance of poor, $2,777.27; cash miscellaneous, $867.54; total, $16,136.15; amount of total disbursements, $13,798.46; balance on hand, $2,337.69.

CHAPTER XXV.

THE CITY OF SPARTA.

Situated in a fertile valley, surrounded by great advantages, on nearly all sides farming lands as good as are to be found anywhere, is Sparta, the county seat of this county.

Ever since it became a village of any appreciable size the beauty of the location and surroundings have always impressed itself upon visitors and at the outset in this chapter, perhaps, no better description of the beauties of the place can be found than is contained in the following extract which was written in August, 1867, by a special correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. Parts of the article are here quoted and certainly the description is beautifully worded and will apply as well today as it did forty-four years ago:

"Imagine a beautiful fertile valley through which flows a river fed by numerous trout brooks whose soft, clear waters babble of the spring in the highlands where they were born. Surrounded with a chain of bluffs, some near, other remote, among which winds the river and its tributaries through smaller valleys which are here lost in the greater one. Near at hand, scarcely more than one mile away, are bluffs, forest covered, whose well divided proportions are clearly cut against the blue sky. On each side of the retreating valleys the bluffs appearing on the opposite side are confounded in the distance by misty and dim looking shadows as though the valley was entirely surrounded by a coronal of hills.

"The flat land, smooth, clear and grassy, dotted with clusters of graceful trees; thus nature planned and fashioned it and now from this elevated spot where I stand the setting sun of a long August day illuminates the beautiful village with its din and bustle, and tasty residences and farmhouses which everywhere dot the landscape." After the opening of the state roads between Hudson and Prairie du Chien, and by way of Sparta to Black River Falls, and subsequently from Portage to LaCrosse in 1849 settlers began to come towards the western part of the state, particularly in what was then LaCrosse county. As has been

written, Monroe county was at one time a part of LaCrosse and was detached from it in 1854. It is undoubtedly authentic that Frank Petit must have settled here in 1849. Mr. Searle, who was clerk of the court at Black River Falls at that time, made the statement that he and a man in his employ visited Black River Falls in September of that year. In the evening of the first day they encamped where Tomah now stands, proceeding on their way in the morning, and owing to a terrific storm they had lost their way and had nothing to guide them except the range of bluffs. Their only chance of getting out of the situation was to follow these bluffs and by them reaching the Mississippi. They had no provisions, but killed game to supply their needs; they traveled south, as they thought, until they came to a small stream and some small timber, where they encamped for the night as best they could in a drenching rain and without food, as their ammunition being wet they could not obtain any game. The next day, towards night, they struck a trail near the stream where the marks of shod horses evidenced that some white man had crossed there. They followed this trail hoping to find a human being somewhere. That night they encamped near Castle Rock and the following day, in a storm which had continued all that night, the party struck Robinson's mills, where they obtained the first food they had had since their own supplies gave out.

Here the travelers took a rest for two days and began their return homeward. At the point where the two crossed the river they determined to ascertain what description the land bore and they marked the southwest quarter of section twenty-four in township seventeen, range four west, which is now included in the site of the city of Sparta.

Having discovered a chance for a water power at this point, Mr. Searle at once went to Baraboo and applied for a warrant for the land. On his return he took teams loaded with lumber and a few men to help him and came to a road over a big ridge on his land, but on his way hither he discovered that the real mill site was above that point, and leaving his lumber he immediately set out for Baraboo, and applied for another warrant, but one of his men had betrayed his intention to Dr. Angle at Baraboo who promised the man a half interest for the description of the land having on it the mill site. These two immediately set out for Mineral Point in order to go through the usual form necessary to make an entry and to entitle them to full possession of the land. Searle took the stage and Angle went on horseback

and thus had the advantage of speed and beat Searle by one hour, thus becoming the owner of the land. So had the question been settled otherwise, "Angelo" would probably have been called "Searlo" or something of the kind. Mr. Searle having lost the middle site and not knowing that a city was to spring up on that forty acres took no farther interest in this claim and sold it for $30.00. He also states that upon looking for his lumber he found that Petit had followed the rule that necessity knows of no law, and had used it in building a house for himself near Castle Rock. William Petit bought a claim of 160 acres of land near the crossing of these two state roads, and where the site of the city now is; he built a log cabin on the bank of Beaver creek at the point about where the library is located; when his cabin was completed on the 5th day of July, 1851, it was the first building of any kind erected in Sparta.

The large amount of travel on the road and the need of a resting place at this point, induced Petit to make a tavern of his dwelling and though the cabin contained but one room and a loft, the latter apartment having no floor, except such a one as was made of a few rough slabs made for this purpose, and put down loosely. There were few, if any, beds in the house and travelers wrapped their blankets about them and laid down upon the hard floor to be lulled to sleep, if that was possible, by the howling of the hungry wolves which often stuck their cold noses through the crevices between the logs and sniffed in anticipation of what a good meal they could have, if it were possible to get inside.

At this time supplies had to be brought from LaCrosse, which then consisted of a land office and about a dozen houses, a hotel and one or two general stores. The varieties of food were few and the opportunities to get them were still fewer, and consequently Petit's bill of fare at the inn was very meager.

In August 1851 Edward Walrath arrived and at once made arrangements to settle and in October of the same year his father, Rev. Fredrick Walrath, a Methodist clergyman, and the remainder of the Walrath family became residents of this place. The elder Walrath entered a claim a mile or so south of Petit's but not having a house built, in the fall he made arrangements and did share the Petit cabin with the owner, until such time as he could build one. The Petit cabin being scantily furnished, and Walrath having no place to store his household goods, they were used in common, but the combined possessions of the two

families were not sufficient for the need of the inmates of the house and the guests. Great inducements having been offered by the state government to parties in search for homes by offering thirty years time at 7% interest within which to pay for land and the location of the land office in LaCrosse caused a great deal of travel by the way of Petit's tavern, which resulted in a gradual settlement of the land near by.

Richard Casselman also located here in 1851 and built a log cabin on the spot that is now the northeast corner of Oak and Water streets which he used as a blacksmith shop; his house was a little back of the shop towards the creek. William Kerrigan, the father of Mrs. W. N. Wells, was then a lad, apprentice to Mr. Casselman and came with the Casselmans to this place. J. D. Damman, Lyman Andres, A. H. Blake and Russell Hill came to Sparta about this time, Damman building a log house where the hotel Lewis now stands which was afterwards sold to Harron who kept a hotel in it. A. H. Blake built a log house on a little hill not far from Casselman's and Mr. Hill located a dwelling farther to the west.

The Rev. W. H. Card, a Baptist clergyman, came in 1851 and preached the first sermon in Petit's house. Ed. Walrath, not believing the minister's assertion that he would hold services there that Sunday, went out trout fishing. When he returned Mr. Card was half finished with his sermon, and to save time, and to have dinner in season, Edward seated himself in the doorway and at the same time listened to the elder's remarks and cleaned the fish. The minister was somewhat indignant at his conduct as a lack of respect for himself and for the Sabbath, and frowned upon the young man. After the services were over Walrath asked Mrs. Petit if she would cook the fish, to which she gave consent and notwithstanding his previous objection the minister ate heartily of the trout which were set before him at that meal.

George A. Fisk who died in 1866 came to Sparta in 1851 and married Catherine E. Walrath in 1857; Mrs. Fisk survived her husband a great many years and lived to a ripe old age, passing away October 20, 1910, and in connection with the early settlement of the village it will be of peculiar interest at this point to get in Mrs. Fisk's own words, an account of the first winter passed by she and her father, Mr. Walrath, in Sparta, where they arrived on October 10, 1851. A sketch of the first winter of her residence in Sparta written by Mrs. Fisk will

be read with special interest by all and more particularly by the elder residents of the city. She entitles it, "My First Winter in Sparta."

"In the spring of 1851 my father made up his mind to break up the old home and emigrate to Wisconsin. His children were getting the Western fever, one son and daughter had already left the home nest. It was more than father and mother could bear so the farm was sold and the goods were packed. That was the beginning. How well I remember the packing up. Three large dry goods boxes about as big as a small barn, it seemed to me, were bought. I remember father telling mother not to put in anything heavy. She had already packed her splint bottom straight back sewing chair. Mother made the remark to sister Sarah, 'I can't leave the chair I rocked all my babies in.'

"In these boxes were stored all things needful. Among them was a red cherry bureau, part of her setting-out outfit, as it was called in those days, when young people took each other for better or worse. It was not very large and was packed full of dried fruits. Tucked in every corner of the box was bedding of all kinds, maple sugar, twenty-five yards of carpet and many other things. We took the packet on the canal as far as Buffalo, then across the lakes to Milwaukee and from there to my sister's home in Fond du Lac county where we spent the summer, while my brother Edward went to LaCrosse with a party looking for a homestead. On his return father bought a horse and what they called a Democrat wagon (first democrat ever in Sparta), a joke as well as wagon.

"There were some teamsters who wanted to see the wild west and they offered to bring our goods through for their board and lodging. It took nine days. The way was long and most of it nothing but an Indian trail. Sometimes they came to what was called a swale or wet marshy ground. We would have to bridge it. Every wagon had a scythe and great forks fastened to one side. Father would call a halt, grass and hazel brush were cut and carried to fill the wet places before we could cross over. Sometimes the boys would want to rush things so as to hurry along, but father would build it safe for others that came after. We stopped one afternoon in Lemonweir Valley to pick cranberries. The farmer told father he could have all we could pick in three hours. We picked a barrel and the farmer furnished the barrel to put them in.

"We reached Sparta on the 10th of October, 1851, just as the

sun was setting so beautifully as we drove down the hill near where the Old Ida House used to stand; across the little stream (Beaver Creek) to the old Globe Hotel. I have never since seen such a beautiful sunset. Father said to mother, 'It's like Paradise.' The hotel had one window and a door with a wooden latch and buckskin string to lift it. Father was delighted with the outlook over the prairie. Not many trees then.

"He took up a claim beyond where the Milwaukee depot now stands. My father and brothers were carpenters so it did not take long to build a log cabin. We moved in our new home on the 15th of November without a chamber floor or window or door. Rag carpets and blankets were tacked over the places for windows and doors. That night came the first snow. It made us wish for our old home. The boys soon had doors and got windows from LaCrosse. The lumber came frm Black River Falls and it took three days to go and come.

"Then when the boxes were unpacked such a mine of wealth. Lots of warm bedding, a little sewing chair, red cherry stand and bureau, three flag bottom chairs, small book case with Watt's sermons and Clark's Commentary and other books, twenty-five yards of rag carpet, a bolt of cotton cloth and curtain calico, you could see your face in (the first ever in Sparta), lots of dried fruit, dishes and table linen. We were quite comfortable. We had an elevated oven cook stove. They were the style those days. The boys made some tamarack bedsteads for the chamber. The roof was shingled with shacks, all that could be bought at that time. It was a terrible cold winter and lots of snow. Some mornings mother would have to come upstairs and sweep up the snow before we would go to breakfast. Mother had tacked cotton cloth on the rafters over our beds.

"We only had one mess of potatoes all winter. A lady where father stopped when he went to Black River to preach gave him a half bushel. Mother said she would cut out the eyes and the rest she would cook. I never saw so many eyes in potatoes before or since. In the fall father bought two kinds of rutabagas of Mr. Frank Petit who lived four miles out and a lot of pumpkins. Grandma Petit told mother how to make pumpkin butter that was delicious. Those rutabagas were the loveliest things, all the apples we had that winter. Some were white.

"Brother Edward made a lovely couch out of those boxes. It had back and arms long and wide enough to sleep on when the preachers would raid us. We had so many boards for the

sitting room, so many for the dining room and the rest for the kitchen. Our pantry was just holes in the logs, boards across and curtained with curtain calico, the same as the couch was covered with and everything matched. The sitting and dining rooms were carpeted. The boys made benches which were covered with curtain calico."

Mr. Walrath, a Methodist minister, began his missionary labors in the county by preaching his first sermon in Sparta in November, 1851; his congregation consisted of five persons; after this he held meetings wherever the people would have him do so, journeying for miles through an almost travelless woods to hold services for some family who had sent him an invitation. Sometimes going on horseback but oftener on foot. Truly a pioneer in the cause of Christianity. Occasionally the entire population of the valley would turn out and accompany him in a sleigh to some place farther on in the woods, and even then the sleigh would not be full. A Mrs. Parks, who resided six miles from Sparta, upon one occasion sent him word that she and her little ones could not walk down to Petit's to hear him preach and dared him to meet her and her family half way. And he did. The meeting was held, the parties each making a journey of three miles and back for the sake of enjoying the services. During many occasions this minister of the gospel was often pursued by wolves with which the forests abounded. He was, however, never injured by any of these blood-thirsty animals, and every one at that time was more or less annoyed by them. They surrounded dwellings and made the night hideous with their howlings, plundering whenever an opportunity offered, and to rid the nuisance the people resorted to traps as well as hunting them with guns.

A number of adventures are recorded with these animals and one concerns Captain Fisk, who, having been out in the country in company with the two daughters of Mr. Walrath, was returning after dark; there were good roads and they were going along nicely when Mr. Fisk discovered they were being chased by five large wolves. He made no mention of the fact to the girls but whipped the horses to a faster speed but still the wolves were gaining upon them and matters were becoming serious, when the bolt that holds the whiffle-tree dropped out thus necessitating a stop. He sprang out to remedy the damage and fortunately found the bolt for which he was searching, and at that time the girls noticed how strange his voice sounded, and kept looking backwards. Following his glances to see what

was the trouble they beheld the panting wolves almost within reach of their arms. It was a trying position, none of the party had a weapon of defense and their only hope was flight. The horses had not been frightened by the pursuance of the wolves but became so upon hearing the slight screams of the girls when they discovered their danger. Fisk sprang into the sled, urged the horses forward and struck backwards with his whip at the wolves; if it had not been for the strong whip he had the wolves would certainly have jumped into the sled. Mile after mile they went in this way. It can be readily imagined that minutes were hours to the pursued party in this race for life. The wolves repelled by the whip tried several times to cut off the flight by attempting to get into the road and trip against the horses at the point of meeting; the constant blows with the whip, however, caused them to fall back, and the chase continued, the wolves snapping their teeth and keeping close to the sled until the clearing was reached and the settlement appeared in view, and then only, did the wolves give up their pursuit. It was an incident long to be remembered by those who were engaged in it.

Other wild animals as well as wolves and also wild fowls of all kinds were plentiful in this region at this time; old settlers say that prairie chickens were so numerous that only partial crops of grain could be raised owing to the fact that these birds would devour every kernel of grain they could see and hang around the fields in great flocks. They were such a nuisance that they were obliged to destroy large numbers of them in self-protection.

The year 1852 brought many interesting events and Mr. Petit in this year laid out the old court house square and platted a number of lots around it; there being sufficient population in the village a meeting of the citizens was called and a resolution was passed to the effect that the village should have a name; there was considerable discussion as to how this name should be decided upon, but it was finally agreed that Mrs. Petit, the mother of the two Petit boys, should have the privilege of choosing the name and she gave it the name of "Sparta."

A little later in the same year Lyman Andrews built the first frame house in the city upon a lot given for the purpose by Mr. Petit, who was offering to give lots to all who would erect buildings upon them; the lot was at the Northeast corner of the square and the building was erected, opened as a tavern and was called the Sparta Exchange. G. H. Ledyard, a Portage

man who had been peddling through this section of the country since its first settlement, opened a store in the log cabin at this time the first store in the village. The first building for use as a store was erected by C. Rathbun on what was then known as Casselman's corner where the Greve's block was subsequently built. Samuel Fisk arrived in August and lived in the house with Casselman until he could build one for his family. This was located where the Chicago & Northwestern Railway depot now stands; George A. and W. M. Fisk were the sons of Daniel Fisk. In the spring of 1852 the first election of any kind was held in the village and seventeen votes were cast; R. J. Casselman, William Petit and Lyman Andrews were the committee of election; Sparta being at that time a part of the town of Leon in the county of LaCrosse.

In December of the same year Samuel Hoyt arrived and began looking for a home; he bought a lot from Mr. Harron for $16 and built a cabin upon it and subsequently Mr. Harron became dissatisfied and offered Mr. Hoyt the lot adjoining the other as a gift if he would purchase his oxen and farm so he could leave the place. Hoyt made the purchase and Harron moved away.

People at this time were constantly filing new claims through the land office in LaCrosse and taking up land and it was necessary, of course, to have witnesses to the fact of their residence on the land for a sufficient time to enable them to get title. William Petit, James Phillips, William King and William Kerrigan it is related once went in company to the land office at LaCrosse. Returning they passed the cabin of a woman known as mother Paddock, who was noted for her masculine attributes. The old lady was the possessor of a dog which had a bad habit of running out and barking at teams and Kerrigan, more for mischief than anything else, fired at the dog not thinking that he could hit it at so great a distance and it was his misfortune to wound the animal in the neck. A while afterwards E. Walrath and E. Thompson passed that way and took dinner with her at which they saw the dog, which was then fully recovered with the exception that it had lost its voice. It would go all through the motions of barking but could not make a sound. Walrath, for a joke pointed to his companion and said: "Mrs. Paddock, here is the man who shot your dog." Going to the supposed offender with her fists doubled up and with a threatening attitude the old woman said, "Sir, all that keeps me from

cowhiding the man who shot my dog is that I believe him to have been drunk at the time, therefore not accountable for the act." Thompson got a little pale about the mouth and did not seem to have the usual relish for his dinner and after that both Walrath and Thompson failed to stop for meals at Mrs. Paddock's on their way to Sparta from LaCrosse.

This year the first logging was done on the LaCrosse river. No sawmills had as yet been built in this section and the logs had to be driven to Neshonoc. Kerrigan and the two Phillips brothers did the driving. A number of amusing incidents occurred in the log driving. It seems that Wilbur E. Fisk had started out with the company of loggers, but being inexperienced in log driving he could not keep his footing when on the logs in the water and he got on one log which began to roll rapidly and he began to dance trying to keep his feet. Faster and faster they went and getting frightened, sprang into the water and clasped the log with his arms; but the log had acquired such a momentum that he was whirled over and over in and out of the water with great rapidity and he was finally rescued with much difficulty nearly strangled and chilled to the bone. He did not continue any farther in the business but took the nearest road for home satisfied that he was not suited for log driving. Later in the same year a sawmill was erected in Angelo by Seth Angle.

The year 1853 brought many interesting events to the little village; a post office was established and William Petit appointed and installed as postmaster and made Richard Casselman deputy, who used his hat for a post office. At the beginning there was only one mail each week and it did not amount to more than a few letters and one or two papers so that it was no great task to "distribute the mail;" and as a rule those who wanted to get their mail went to Mr. Casselman and upon inquiring for it, he would take down the post office from his head and hand out the letter if there was one. Mr. Petit, however, had some difficulty with Casselman and appointed Lyman Andrews his deputy, who dignified the office by keeping it at the Sparta Exchange. Soon after this, Petit sold out his entire interest in the village to A. F. Bard and moved away while Casselman was appointed postmaster and served in this capacity for several years. A. H. and Hilton Blake during this year erected a sawmill in the village on the bank of Beaver creek and were it still standing it would be in the middle of Water street in the

down town district. Court street was then called Maine and it bore that name until the erection of the court house on the court house square.

There were a few new comers during this year some locating in the village and some on farms near by. W. S. Newton established a hardware on Oak street early in May. Andrew Allen in September opened a store where Mr. Harron had formerly kept a tavern; this year the medical profession made its bow to the community in the person of Dr. George A. Milligan, who was most joyfully received by the inhabitants and was the first physician to locate in the county of Monroe. He is still living in the city of Sparta at a very advanced age having retired from practice a number of years ago; Maj. Morrison McMillan arrived in 1853 and located on a farm in the village and afterwards became quite prominent in county affairs. Timothy Barker was also another of the settlers at this time, he building a two story house; in addition to these, there were probably eight or ten more new settlers in or near Sparta during this year.

The fine public school system of Sparta had its humble beginning in 1853 with the erection of a small board shanty about 12 x 16 feet in size, which afterwards served the double purpose of a school house and church. Miss Sarah Walrath was the first teacher regularly employed and opened the teaching under adverse circumstances but with the pluck and vim which characterized the earlier inhabitants.

During this year there was a miniature Indian war precipitated in the village which proved, however, to be almost entirely one sided but which brought the desired results. It seems that the Winnebago Indians, as had ever been the case, claimed all the territory to be theirs previous to the coming of the white people; this tribe at that time had degenerated somewhat, were very inferior to the Chippewa Indians who lived farther north, and the settlers invariably had nothing to do with the Winnebagos but were annoyed by them at times, as they would steal, and in certain cases became quite impudent.

One instance, which aroused the people of the village, occurred in the summer of 1853, when an Indian came to the home of R. H. McMann in Big Creek, about four miles from Sparta and demanded food of him and upon being refused, pointed his rifle at the farmer and threatened to shoot him unless it was produced. This so enraged Mr. McMann that afterwards he made a complaint to the authorities in Sparta and

the news having gotten among the people, a volunteer company was formed for the purpose of punishing the Indians; every man in the village and within two miles around volunteered his service and the company was organized, numbered about twenty-five men; a camping party of about forty Winnebagos, to which the Indian belonged who had threatened Mr. McMann, were camped about two miles from his farm; to this point marched the brave little army intent upon punishing the Winnebago and inflicting a lesson which would be lasting. Upon arriving at the Indian camp, a demand was made for the Indian who had threatened McMann and they were informed that he would be whipped as a punishment. To their surprise, the Winnebagos made no resistance whatever, but allowed the whites to take possession of the Indian and not only that, but to take their guns away from them which were fired off and stacked together. The Indian was stripped of his clothes and severely whipped by Mr. McMann with a blacksnake. The red man, however, stood with folded arms and not moving a muscle on his body, proudly erect and disdained to show any sign of suffering. When McMann had inflicted sufficient punishment, the Indians were marched to the village and arranged in front of the Sparta Exchange where they were given food by the proprietor, Lyman Andrews; they all ate heartily except the Indian who had been whipped, he refused to touch the food. When the meal was done the settlers told the Indians to go and gave them to understand that they must stay away and never be seen in that part of the country again; this heroic treatment had its effect and it is related that there was no trouble with Indians afterwards, although one time soon after the people of the village had a serious scare from a rumor to the effect that the Indians were to massacre the whites in revenge for this whipping; it proved, however, to be without foundation.

Eighteen fifty-four brought things of big interest to the people of the little village; for during the winter a bill was pending in legislature to set aside the county of Monroe from LaCrosse county and a lively little contest was on as to where the county seat should be located; whether at Leon, which was then quite a settlement, or at Sparta; the bill was finally passed and approved by the governor March 21, and it provided that Sparta should be the county seat of the county and on the first Tuesday in April the first election was held at which the full quota of officers were elected and the records show that a total vote of

seventy was polled in the entire county. Nearly all of the county officers were residents of the village of Sparta and contained many well known names.

A. H. Blake was elected county judge, E. Walrath, sheriff; Wilbur Fisk, register of deeds; John Barker, clerk of the court; Samuel Hoyt, county treasurer; A. B. Cornel, district attorney.

This year brought several new settlers, all of whom it is impossible to enumerate, but among them early in July was George W. Root and family. Mr. Root bought the house of Lyman Andrews, then known as the Sparta Exchange, together with the stock of goods and continued the business, hiring Mr. Andrew's dining room table as a counter for a shilling a week. J. M. Sugden came up from St. Louis that year and built the first brick chimney in the village in Mr. Root's house. Sugden erected a paint shop on Water street, and it was at the time the largest building on that street; people called him crazy for putting up such a large house for a paint shop. Doctor Gage, in an article on the early settlers, says of Mr. Sugden:

"Sugden, one of the pioneers and a first class painter and paper hanger, found this, at that early period a not very inviting field for these pursuits, but few buildings then warranted this class of adornment and he betook himself to bricklaying, in the way of making small chimneys for the roofs of small houses as a means of turning an honest penny, and he became known as the handsome bricklayer, but whether this term was to be applied to the individual himself or to his work has never yet been with certainty known."

Among others, Charles Dickenson and family came this year and was one of the men who at one time conducted the Log Tavern which stood where the Hotel Lewis now is. At the time of his arrival there were about fourteen houses in the village.

Things looked so promising for the future that a Fourth of July celebration was indulged in and every one within twenty or thirty miles of the village participated, making it a grand occurrence. George Flint, of LaCrosse, delivered the address and the day was passed in amusements of various kinds, a dinner, and finished by a dance; the day was marked by a further event which became historical; the surveyors of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway passed through the village on that day in running the line from Milwaukee to LaCrosse.

Business advanced and among the stores opened in 1854 was that of Rich & Blake, Mr. Wouldrich, D. Logan, S. D. Jackson. In August, the first Master-Mason Lodge was organized

through the efforts of Major McMillan; the lodge met in a grove for the first time and afterwards held meetings in the loft of a small building. Among the settlers we also note the name of Benjamin Stevens, a mechanic, and his son, O. D. Stevens, who afterwards kept a meat market; S. M. Holbrook, an omnibus man, and Charles Goss. This year was marked also by the erection of the Monroe House, a little frame hotel, which stood upon the corner now occupied by the Baptist church, and Andrew Allen also built the Allen House, which subsequently was used as a store.

This year also saw the publication of the first newspaper ever issued, if it may be called a newspaper, being the "Monroe County Citizen," which was published by a man by the name of L. Reising, who came from somewhere in New York and brought a little printing press. He issued a few numbers of this paper and, not meeting with financial success, the publication was discontinued.

The majority of the settlers who came in during the year 1853-54-55 were from Cattaraugus county, in the state of New York, and there were so many of them that they became known as the "Cattaraugus delegation."

We are unable to get the names of all of them, but among them L. S. Fisher appears, who arrived in 1855 and was elected clerk of the county board in 1856, served as deputy postmaster under Casselman and in that year opened the first exclusive grocery store in the village and in 1857 he went into the furniture business, doing well until 1860, when he was elected county treasurer, which position he filled until 1862, when he became commissioner on the board of enrollment for the Sixth Congressional District; subsequently during the latter part of his life served as postmaster a great many years in the city.

Dr. S. P. Angle was also from that county and located land and built a sawmill where Angelo now stands, and his son, Oscar, located at that point on a large farm, Oscar afterwards engaging in the livery business on Water street, subsequently became sheriff of the county.

J. J. McKay, the second member of assembly of this place, also was a Cattaraugus man and so was Carlton Rice, who took up practice in the county, A. F. Bard, L. Leas, Joseph Powell, Rufus Robinson, L. Moseley, G. Harvey and S. H. Sturns, who served so many years as clerk of the circuit court, B. S. Winship, proprietor of the Winship House, at that time the eating room for the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, was a Cattaraugus man.

Holden & Ward, who conducted the grocery store at the corner of Oak and Court street, the McClure family all came from that county, settled here in 1852. J. J. McClure built a store south of the Globe Hotel, which was situated on what is now known as the library corner, he carried on a boot and shoe business; the Rockwell family, S. H. Dalaby came from Cattaraugus county, C. W. McMillan, who served several terms as sheriff, was one of the delegation and arrived in 1855. Morton Leonard, Lyman Andrews, William H. Blyton, W. S. Newton, and Henry Foster all came from that county, some as early as 1853.

Hiram and Henry Foster arrived in 1855 and Hiram built the Globe Hotel the same year, but soon afterwards sold it to William Burlingame, who kept it for a number of years. Henry Foster bought out O. C. Poles, who was about to start a harness shop upon the arrival of the Fosters and he kept the business for a good many years afterwards.

Very few of the old residents who came as early as 1855 are still alive, and among them is H. A. Streeter, who now resides in the city at a very advanced age. He came in 1855 and his memory is quite clear as to the settlement in the village at that time.

He states that the stage station at that time was at George Griffins, a log house with a barn connected which stood upon the Hotel Lewis corner. S. D. Jackson had a store then somewhere along in where McMillan's Furniture Company is now located; the building was of rough boards and he afterwards built a store on what was called the knoll where the barn of D. F. Davis now stands. Mr. Streeter boarded when he first came here, but desired to build a house and makes the remarkable statement that he started the building on Monday, with the help of a man named Andrew Dickenson, and had it completed and moved in by Thursday; it was a frame building, very primitive in its construction and he proceeded, after the house was done, to make a bedstead, and he states that he made a "feather bed" out of cotton batten for the mattress.

A table was erected of rough boards, several three-legged stools constructed, and this little home was complete and he and his wife moved in happy in the possession of that much. This building stood where F. Baldwin's blacksmith shop is located.

Mr. Streeter bought the lot there because he thought the business portion of the village would go that way, as there was a jewelry store located there. He states that William Kerrigan

had a blacksmith shop in the corner where Roberts & Jones' grocery store is located. The shop at first having no covering over it whatever, but consisted of an anvil block and a bellows; at that time a sawmill was located here where the dam now is on Water street bridge and Mr. Streeter found employment with the proprietor of the mill.

In this year Sparta experienced its first serious flood. Mr. Streeter relates that owing to the heavy rains the flood came down the creek in a wave, which he states was at least eight feet high and crushed everything as flat as a floor; the dam was washed out and the mill ruined; this dam was rebuilt, but in its history it was washed out in the earlier days five times.

There was considerable agitation in 1855 with regard to the liquor question, and it appears that a man by the name of Samuel Crosby built a building where Gustad's store now is and opened a grocery and liquor store, and thereby, of course, caused indignation among the temperance people.

C. W. Pott, a harness maker, who arrived in Sparta that year, saw two Cattaract men drinking in the store and had Mr. Crosby arrested for selling liquor without license. This coming up before Justice McKay, would not allow Mr. Pott's testimony, saying that he had not tasted the liquor and could not swear to what it was and for failure of proof the jury found the defendant not guilty. It got to be a regular thing and it seems that this man, Crosby, was tried six different times in an effort to convict him of this offense of selling liquor. At last they did find sufficient proof and he was fined $20 by the justice.

But this did not rid the place of the liquor nuisance and the temperance people got up another plan; the women would take their knitting work and sit in the front part of the store, hoping thus to keep the men away and to break up the business; but that did not do as the men who desired to drink marched boldly in and called for what they wanted, so the ladies were obliged to retire in good order with the reflection that that method of stopping the liquor traffic was a failure. Other incidents of law suits in the earlier days abounded and have naturally connected with them the names of J. M. Morrow and L. W. Graves. It is related that in 1857, G. W. Warring was then justice of the peace and it apears that Mr. Graves and William Wright were the parties in a suit before his honor, and S. F. Holbrook, L. M. Rose, W. S. Newton and W. L. Johnson were chosen as jurors with A. Cross, constable, in charge; after hearing the evidence, the jury would not agree, but the court refused to discharge

them until they were ready to render a verdict. The jury was quite disgusted at this and they went back in the room, climbed on the table and one of them removed a board from the ceiling and made their escape unknown by the officers, who afterwards searched for them in vain, while the reprobates were enjoying a game of poker in the corner of the Ida House. This is a law suit that never has been finished as the jury never rendered a verdict.

In 1855 and 1856 settlers arrived in such numbers that it is impossible to attempt to give the names of but few; buildings sprang up everywhere and the spot which had so lately been the hunting ground for the Indians became alive with busy people. S. D. Jackson built himself a residence and also a store building which was afterwards occupied by Dodge Brothers; in 1855, Jackson opened up with a large stock of goods; subsequently taking into partnership W. W. Allis, who came from California in 1858.

R. M. Dunlevy was one of the new comers in 1855, and entered into the dry goods business, at first clerking for S. D. Jackson; he continued for six or seven years, and at the end of that time became a member of the firm, Mr. Allis retiring. Mr. Jackson was acknowledged to be one of the best merchants in Sparta and Mr. Denlevy's experience with him fitted him to enter into the business alone when Jackson removed to a larger field. Dunlevy branched out into the wholesale and retail business in all kinds of fancy dry goods and kept a buyer in New York and Boston markets.

During 1855 the Rev. L. C. Herrick, a Baptist clergyman, took up his residence here and built a sawmill on Beaver creek near Allen's grove, and the same year another Baptist preacher, Rev. S. Gustin, came to Sparta and went into the nursery business. These contended for the pastorate of the Baptist society to such an extent as to become quite unfriendly and unfortunately it resulted in the temporary disorganization of the Baptist society.

J. D. Condit arrived in 1855 also, and his brother, A. H. Condit, built a drug store, the first, on the north side of Beaver creek and also became interested with Milton Montgomery in publishing the Watchman, which was published on the second floor of the building owned by Condit. Porter Aylesworth, a blacksmith, arrived in 1856 and became proprietor of the Monroe House which he kept until 1857, when he was burned out. The next year he built the old Warner House, which stood some dis-

tance south of where the present Warner House now stands. Among others in 1855 were L. M. Newbury, E. J. Campbell, Joseph Kline, who settled in Leon Valley, G. B. Holden, who engaged in the lumber business and became interested in the Sparta Woolen Mill, and J. D. McDowell, who worked for a time for W. S. Post, in the mercantile business. McDowell went into business for himself in 1857 by opening a boot and shoe store which he continued to carry on for several years.

Business had grown to such an extent by this time that banking conveniences were necessary and in 1858 the Bank of Sparta was started by J. D. Hemphill; seven years later it was organized under the general banking law as the First National Bank of Sparta and subsequently in its history it became the State Bank, now being known as the Bank of Sparta.

Hagaman Palmer arrived with his family in 1856 in company with five other families, among them being S. P. Greenman, the well known hotel keeper, who carried on the Ida House for a number of years, and Francis Brock. Palmer went into partnership with J. D. Condit in the dray business and also engaged in land speculation, entering and buying some 6,000 acres mostly in Monroe county. He brought his five sons with him, all of whom afterwards engaged in business in the city; William Palmer became county clerk; John Palmer in the livery business; Daniel Palmer became a partner in the firm of H. Palmer & Co.; George and Henry carried on a flour and feed store.

H. E. Kelly, who afterwards became collector of internal revenues started in the dry goods business in 1856. L. S. Bingham took up his residence here and entered the hardware trade; he built a three story building on Water street near Oak. J. A. Warner came about the same time and clerked for McFarland a number of years, afterwards going into business as a wholesale and retail dealer in Greve's block. M. A. Thayer and A. A. Munn arrived the same year, Mr. Thayer was register of deeds for nine terms and also went into the banking business. J. M. Morrow and L. W. Graves arrived during the same year and so did J. Andrews. In company with Frank Skillman and Captain Fisk, Andrews erected the first foundry in the city, which was located near the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway depot; J. A. Gillman, who arrived in 1856, subsequently became owner of the foundry and after that several changes in ownership followed and passed into the hands of J. J. Owsley in 1865 and a year later was destroyed by fire.

During the year 1856 a court house was erected on a piece

of land donated by J. D. Damman, the town reserving the square where the present court house is, which was given by William Petit, for a park. Additions to the village were platted by J. D. Damman, Richard Casselman, R. Hill and E. S. Blake, and at that time there was much rivalry between the two sides of the river as to which should have the court house. The second building, however, was built in Petit's square after some trouble with Damman over his gift. This year a public hall was opened, situated on the corner of Oak and Water streets, opposite the Greve's block; this building was two stories high and completed by R. W. Bowles, the hall receiving the proud name of "Liberty Hall;" and then the village arrived to the dignity of having theatrical performances for the amusement of its inhabitants; the very first show which appeared was a magician who drew a large crowd, and it is related that the crowd was so large that it was too heavy for the floor and just as the magician was about to perform one of his startling feats the floor gave way and down went the audience and magician with all his slight of hand machinery on top of them, so that a grand disappearing act was successfully performed which was not in the program.

The day that the Liberty Hall floor broke seemed to be a day of accidents; it is related that the frame of the Methodist church had just been raised and Benjamin Stevens and Morton Bump, two carpenters, were putting up the frame of the belfry, when one of the ties broke, letting down the timbers and the workmen at the same time; Stevens was severely hurt, but Bump escaped with slight injury; during the same day a man fell from the top of a building on Oak street, but was not seriously injured.

Wedding bells rang for the first time in 1855 when Edward Walrath and Miss Blake were married, and in the following year Henry Talmadge and Anna Bradshaw.

The hard times of 1857 seriously effected the business and settlement of the village, and during that year Sparta was nearly at a stand still; very few new comers arrived and little occurred which was of interest. The settlers, however, continued their efforts in building up the place and during that year K. and O. P. McClure built the first grist mill which was erected on the site of the old saw mill on Beaver creek. Subsequently T. B. Tyler erected a woolen mill on the same site at a cost of $30,000. This old building is still standing and is known as the Sparta Woolen Mill property.

On May 11, 1857, under provisions of chapter 52 of the

statutes of Wisconsin, the village of Sparta, Monroe county, was incorporated and arrived at the dignity of a full fledged municipality.

The first board of trustees was elected on July 1, 1857, and was as follows: R. J. Casselman, president; H. Palmer, Joseph Carmichael, R. W. Bowles, S. F. Holbrook, C. Rich and J. A. Gillman, trustees; L. S. Fisher, clerk; L. Andrews, treasurer, and Chester McClure, marshal.

Among the settlers in 1857 were Dennis Lawrence and wife, the later a fashionable dressmaker. William Potter, a meat market man, who afterwards getting the gold fever, went to Pike's Peak and was given up for dead, but soon afterwards returned to Sparta and resumed his old vocation. Thomas B. Tyler arrived in 1857 from Pennsylvania, though a native of the east, he loved his new location and was one of the men who did much to build up the village.

A good story is related of Mr. Tyler which is as follows: Previous to his coming to Sparta, he had been engaged in the drug business at Coudersport, Pa., and there was acquainted with several men who afterwards came to the west. So it was no unusual thing for a Coudersport man to call on Mr. Tyler's place of business when he came to Sparta. One day J. D. Condit happened in at Mr. Tyler's place of business when the latter was out, and a few minutes later a deaf and dumb man entered. Like all unfortunates of this class, this individual began to stare at everything, without making his business known. Condit thought he saw a chance to play a joke on Mr. Tyler, so stepped to the door to look for him, and met him coming. "There is a man waiting for you. Perhaps he is from Coudersport," said J. D. The individual was now looking at some pictures, and had his back turned to the pair. Mr. Tyler was a quiet, unassuming man; so he brushed back his hair, straightened up his collar and coughed. The stranger did not seem to hear him. Mr. Tyler again arranged his collar and hair, and stepping a little nearer, said: "You wished to see me, sir?" No answer, no backward glance. The gentleman reddened perceptibly, but again jerked at his collar and brushed back his hair, with the question now put in louder tones, "Did you want to see me, sir?" The stranger still continued his examination of the pictures. Redder and redder Mr. Tyler grew, and when he next asked the question he bawled it at the top of his voice. The man, however, took no notice whatever of him, and a look of blank amazement was spreading Tyler's face, when Mr. Condit,

who had stepped outside of the door, peeped in and said in a hoarse whisper: "You eternal fool, he's deaf and dumb."

The opening of the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad to this place in 1858, gave a new impetus to business and to immigration. The track was laid as far as the tunnel from the east, and also westward from the tunnel to LaCrosse. But the tunnel itself was something that required months to complete. An engine and some cars were drawn over the bluffs for use on the western part of the line; and for some six months the trains ran to and from the tunnel on both sides, passengers having to foot it across the bluff from one train to the other. During this time Sparta had no railway depot,—a freight car, switched off of the main track, answering the purpose, as it was of ample dimensions to hold the waiting passengers and their baggage at that time. Later, a neat depot was erected with other necessary buildings; and later still,, a dining hall and hotel known as the Winship House.

The Letson Brothers, in 1858, put up a sash, door and blind factory. L. H. Mather came to Sparta the same year, built a block of buildings on Water street, and opened a drug store which he kept for several years. Mr. Mather's enterprise is to be seen all over the city. He erected more handsome buildings here than any one man in this place. J. W. Smith and family made their advent this year. Mr. Smith engaged at that time in the hardware business. His son, J. E. Smith, kept a variety and auction store on Oak street. J. J. French, a dealer in guns and ammunition, with H. Palmer & Co. D. B. Howe, of the firm of Aylesworth & Co. D. McBride and family were among the new comers of 1858. D. McBride was the editor of the "Herald," which has been conducted since that time to the present with only a slight interruption. Mr. McBride was postmaster at Sparta for eight years, commencing with President Lincoln's administration.

Late in December of the same year another newspaperman, Capt. D. W. C. Wilson, took up his residence here. He did not at that time, however, enter a printing office. During 1860 and 1861 he served as justice of the peace. In the summer and fall of 1861, he held war-meetings, and in November of that year was made lieutenant of Company D of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Regiment, going into service January, 1862. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, April 6, 1862, and was in various prisons in Alabama and Georgia, until paroled at Richmond, Virginia, which occurred in October of the same

year. Re-entering service, he remained there until 1864, when he returned to Wisconsin. He was elected to the assembly in 1865, and to the senate in 1866. During 1868, he was traveling correspondent of the "Milwaukee Sentinel," and two years later he took a half interest in the "Sparta Eagle." In 1872 he bought the whole "Eagle" office and changed the name of the paper to the "Monroe County Republican." A. W. Wilson, a brother of Captain Wilson, also settled in Sparta in 1858. Dr. M. R. Gage was another of the new comers of 1858, practicing his profession here many long years except the two years that he was surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Regiment. At one time after the war, Dr. Gage was connected with H. Palmer in the drug business.

The next year, 1859, T. B. Tyler built a grist mill near the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad depot. This mill has passed through many hands since its building. D. D. Cheney, who settled in this place in 1861, and H. Greve owned it at one time. It is now owned by Bergman Brothers. The mill had a capacity of three hundred barrels per week, and employed six men. H. C. Brooks, was head miller, T. D. French, a brother of J. J. French, came from the south this year, and settled in Sparta, going into business with J. M. Sugden, a partnership which lasted about four years.

Among the settlers of 1861 and 1862 we find A. Saxe, a furniture manufacturer on Oak street; J. J. Owsley, who bought out Tyler's mill and run it some five years, during the first year of which time the dam went out seven times. S. M. Owsley, a son of J. J. Owsley, now a grocer on Oak street; R. S. Wells, surgeon dentist, and W. H. White, a dealer in agricultural implements. James Francis became a resident in Sparta in 1861, and a little later went into the grocery business at Johnson's old stand, corner of Oak and Court streets, which Mr. Johnson, deceased, had left vacant. Subsequently he moved into a brick block further east on Oak street, and then added dry goods to his stock of groceries. Dr. Bennett, a well-known physician of Sparta, located in 1861.

George Dunn came in 1861 and in connection with M. Erickson and W. H. Blyton, erected a large block of brick buildings between Main and Oak streets on Water; Dunn opened a wholesale and retail dry goods business there and still continues in the same store building with the retail business. Chauncey Blakeslee came from Neilsville and commenced business with a large stock of dry goods in the Dunn building.

The beginning of the War of the Rebellion affected the growth and business interests of the village to a marked degree; prices went up and the poorer classes had a hard time to get the bare necessities of life.

The citizens of Sparta and vicinity exhibited true patriotism and furnished a large portion of the several companies that went from the county. At the receipt of the news of the fall of Fort Sumpter the indignation and war-like spirit of our modern Spartans were fully aroused, and at no place in the United States was the President's call for troops more promptly responded to than in this village. As soon as it was known that a call had been formally made for volunteers, enlistments commenced, and continued so briskly that only a small portion of those who tendered their service were accepted. The first company organized in Sparta was known as Captain Lynn's, and its members were first enlisted for a period of three months, but as soon as it was known that troops were required for a longer period of service the company was reorganized and nearly every man who had enlisted for the short term reënlisted for three years, or during the war. The company was ordered about the 6th of June, 1861, to proceed to Camp Utley, Racine, Wis., where it was assigned to the Fourth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Halbert E. Paine, and became Company I of that regiment. It left Sparta with the following named commissioned officers: Captain, John W. Lynn; first lieutenant, Levi R. Blake; second lieutenant, Ansyl A. West.

Captain Lynn was killed on the gunboat Tyler, July 15, 1862, while on an expedition toward Vicksburg, the steamer having been fired into by a rebel battery. Shortly after this the regiment was in a thirty-days' siege of Vicksburg, but disease so weakened the men that at the end of that time the siege was abandoned. They had a successful battle at Bisland, Louisiana, near Bayou Teche, and a little later they made an attack upon Port Hudson, where Capt. Levi Blake fell mortally wounded. The battle of Port Hudson proved very disastrous to the regiment. On September 1, 1863, the War Department gave orders that the Fourth Wisconsin be equipped as cavalry, and it was thereafter known as the Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry.

Company A, Third Wisconsin, Barstow's Cavalry, was organized about mid-summer, 1861, by Capt. Jerry Dammon, of Sparta. Its first lieutenant was Robert Carpenter, of Sparta, and second lieutenant, Leonard Morley, of Viroqua.

The company left Sparta and proceeded to Camp Barstow,

Janesville, Wisconsin, where it was mustered into service. The regiment left the state and went via Chicago to St. Louis, March 26, 1862. While on the Northwestern railroad, near Chicago, it met with a very serious accident, which resulted in the loss of twelve men, Company A alone having seven men killed and several were severely injured.

Captain Damman, who went out in command of the company, resigned March 9, 1863, and was succeeded by Capt. Robert Carpenter, who retained command until the date of his muster out of service, January 30, 1865.

Company D, Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry, was raised in the month of November and December, 1861, and was called the Northwestern Rangers. The company was recruited by George A. Fisk, D. W. C. Wilson and Peter Sloggy. At an election for officers a vote of the members of the company was taken and resulted in the election of Fisk as captain, Wilson as first lieutenant, and Sloggy as second lieutenant. The company left Sparta and proceeded to Milwaukee, January 14, 1861, and was assigned to the Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry, under the command of Col. J. S. Albin, of Plover.

This regiment was at the battle of Shiloh and in the sieges of Corinth and Vicksburg, at the battle of Champion Hills, and at that of Allatoona mountains, as well as in several lesser engagements; and it suffered severely from disease, engendered by the sickly climate. Its gallant colonel lost his life at Shiloh, which proved a disastrous battle to the raw recruits. Yet Governor Harvey said of them: "Many regiments of that fight may well covet the impressions which the Eighteenth have left of personal bravery, heroic daring and determined endurance."

Company C, of the Nineteenth Wisconsin Regiment, was organized in December, 1861, and mustered into service by Capt. J. A. Chandler, of Sparta. Charles Case was first lieutenant, and Henry B. Nichols second lieutenant.

Captain Chandler resigned July 30, 1862, and Charles Case was promoted to the captaincy. The latter also resigned and Henry B. Nichols became the captain of Company C February 7, 1863. The company was mustered out of service April 19, 1865.

The Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Regiment was organized by Col. Milton Montgomery, of Sparta, and was mustered into service September 14, 1862. Company D was the company enlisted at this place, and its officers were: J. D. Condit, captain, and Mort. E. Leonard and Charles S. Farnham, lieutenants. Captain Condit resigned on account of sickness, July 15, 1863, and Mort. E.

Leonard was put in command of the company. The latter was wounded in the action of Decatur, Ga., July 22, 1864, but returned to duty in November of the same year. At the same battle Colonel Montgomery was wounded and taken prisoner. His arm, which had been shot off by a rifle ball, hung dangling to the stub for a period of forty-eight hours before amputation took place. The gallant colonel did not, however, resign upon his release from prison, but continued with his regiment until mustered out June 7, 1865. The regiment suffered very much from sickness during its service. At one time 500 of the men lay sick, and less than a hundred were fit for duty. This happened at Snyder's Bluffs, Miss., in 1863. The regiment was in several skirmishes, of which lack of space prevents particular mention.

The Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Regiment was organized under the government call for 500,000 men. Company C of this regiment was recruited by Capt. George A. Fisk, of Sparta, and was mustered into service March 4, 1864. Luther B. Noyles was first lieutenant, and C. E. Bullard was second lieutenant.

Before the close of the war Captain Fisk was promoted as major, and Stephen C. Miles, a well-known Sparta man, as captain.

Company C lost several men. C. L. Cleves, Darwin Cole, Davis Douglass, A. B. Ingales, P. C. Walker and Charles L. McClure were killed in action. E. H. Amidon, R. B. Balcom, H. Brown, Thomas Casner, William Dayton, H. W. Hudson, John Hopwood, Eldridge Rathbun and John Wilkinson died of wounds received in battle. Of those who died of disease many gave up life in the Salisbury and Andersonville prisons. The following is a list of such of Company C's men as died of disease: George C. Cross, Wm. B. Snyder, Alfred O. Barnes, M. A. Butts, Dan. A. Barton, P. Farr, Nathan Graves, Henry Hathaway, James Hubbell, Edward Nichols, John Printz, Cyrus Sour, Samuel Smith, J. E. Stevens, L. VanBorst, Walter VanVickle, J. B. Wolcot and Chas. Young.

A portion of the First Battery, the LaCrosse Artillery, was from Sparta. S. Hoyt was one of the number. This company won the applause of Major General McClernand and of Major General Reynolds, for gallant conduct on the field, and for its cleanliness and good behavior in camp.

Sparta sent 142 citizens to the war, sixty-three of whom reenlisted at the close of their first term. The colonel of the Seventh Wisconsin Regiment, W. W. Robinson, was a Sparta man. Col. W. W. Robinson was born at Fairhaven, Vermont, December

RANDOLPH A. RICHARDS

14, 1819, and was educated at Rutland Academy, Castleton Academy and Norwich Military Academy. During the Mexican war he served as first lieutenant and captain in the Third Regiment, Ohio Volunteers. He was a resident of Sparta at the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion, having first visited and selected a farm near that place in the summer of 1851. In the spring of 1861 he took an active part in the organization of the company then being recruited here, giving it quite a thorough course of lessons in discipline and drill. In August of the same year he was commissioned lieutenant colonel of the Seventh Wisconsin Volunteers, and served in that capacity until January 31, 1862, when he was promoted colonel of the same regiment. He commanded the Seventh Wisconsin in the following named engagements: Thornburg, Rappahannock Station, White Sulphur Springs, Gainsville, Fredericksburg, FitzHugh Crossing, Chancellorsville, Laurel Hill and Bethesda Church, and the Iron Brigade in the following: Brandy Station, Beverly Ford, Gettysburg, Birchland, Wilderness, November, 1863; Wine Run, Wilderness, 1864; Spottsylvania Courthouse, North Anna, Cold Harbor and Petersburg. He was severely wounded in his left leg at the battle of Gainsville, August 28, 1862, from the effects of which wound he has never fully recovered. For services rendered during the war he has recently been appointed United States Consul at Lamatove, Madagascar.

Many of the newcomers of Sparta were in the war previous to their coming here. J. W. Currant, at one time register of deeds, and Michael McComber each lost a limb in battle; Rufus S. and H. K. Dodge were also in the army. H. K. Dodge tells of many occurrences of the war which are very remarkable and which are not in history. One of these we will give here, the truth of which the editor will not vouch for: Dodge was once stationed at a point to repel a large force of rebels, a belt of trees dividing the two armies. Mr. Dodge finally got out of bullets and substituted some balls of snuff, which the sutler had for sale. The effect was wonderful. In a few minutes the whole rebel army was sneezing, and they kept at it until consternation seized them and they broke ranks and fled. Mr. Dodge went in pursuit and was surprised on crossing the ground which they had occupied to find it strewn with noses. He says he picked up two and a half bushels of them. What use he made of them in trade he does not say, and as he was the only person who knows the information died with him.

The return of peace brought with it a renewed activity in

business enterprises and the growth of the community, which had been interrupted by the war, continued and many new names were added to the roll, too many to here enumerate, among them being Colonel Shuter and Dr. A. B. Nichols, who opened a Turkish bath establishment under the Warner House. This institution was conducted successfully for several years, and in connection with artesian water which has mineral properties became quite a resort for treatment of various diseases. In the spring of 1865 the courthouse was built in Petit's square, which included the sheriff's dwelling, and in that year J. L. Mather built the Sparta paper mill, which a few years later was sold to Farnham, Shuter & Co., who in turn sold it to O. I. Newton, and he continued to operate it up to the time of his death, when it went to his sons, George and Harry, and having burned a few years after while owned by these boys it never was rebuilt. The water power, however, is used in furnishing power for the electric light plant, which furnishes light and power to the city and vicinity, running under the corporate name of O. I. Newton Sons' Co. Mr. George Newton is at present the manager. The paper mill at one time manufactured about 4,000 pounds of paper per day and employed twenty men.

A new charter was obtained for the village from the Legislature, March 24, 1866, and in the following April a charter election was held in which the following officers were elected: J. T. Hemphill, president, and T. B. Tyler, O. D. Randall, T. D. Steele, M. R. Gage, D. G. Jewett and C. C. Morrill, trustees; George C. Farnham, clerk; H. E. Kelly, treasurer; Samuel Hoyt, police justice; John Humphrey, marshal, and D. F. Stillman, street commissioner.

About this time the hop fever had been raging over this part of the country and large numbers of persons in Sparta and vicinity had gone into the business. At one time it is stated there were over three hundred acres planted to hops within a mile of Sparta, and the same condition of affairs was true in different parts of the county, especially around the two larger villages, Sparta and Tomah, and the editor remembers with great pleasure some of his experiences at "hop picking time," and it in those days became a common thing to refer to events which took place at or near "hop picking time."

The firm of H. Palmer & Co. were, perhaps, the most extensive dealers in hops. The firm was composed of, in addition to Mr. Palmer, D. M. Cargill and John Moffat. They handled at one time as high as $500,000 worth of hops annually.

Another thing which struck this part of the country at this time and caused great excitement was the rumor that oil had been discovered in the valley of the Kickapoo river, which runs along the southern portion of the county. A man named Ticknor, who claimed to be an oil operator from the oil regions of the east, assured the people of the existence of oil in that section. They visited the spot and saw crude petroleum boiling from the spring; smelt it, tasted it and were satisfied. And the times that followed were indeed exciting for awhile. A "Gem Petroleum Company" was formed in which this man Ticknor was the head and a heavy stockholder; lands were leased from farmers at exorbitant prices in that section, and the capital of this celebrated industry was the famous village now known as "Oil City." Stocks in the oil company were in demand and everyone who could raise enough money invested it in a share or more, and this man Ticknor, in order to accommodate his friends, so to speak, sold nearly all of his shares at a large advance.

During this time wells were being bored in the "oil" region and after the stocks had been pretty well distributed it was discovered that all they got from the wells was water, not oil; then the bubble burst, for it was discovered that Ticknor had sunk a barrel of crude petroleum under the spring for the purpose of deceiving the people; stocks went down and the Gem Petroleum Company went out of existence; the oil excitement, much to be regretted, had practically ruined several good citizens, financially.

It was discovered, however, in digging the wells near the Kickapoo river that the water was of remarkable purity and a movement was set on foot to investigate the matter in the city of Sparta, and sink a well; a meeting of citizens was called and a subscription taken up to defray expense and George W. Waring was engaged as chief engineer and commenced the work; a well was sunk in Petit's square and flowing water was reached at the very first attempt at the depth of three hundred and fifteen feet, the well flowing one hundred gallons per minute, and still flows in the court house park. The medicinal qualities of the water were soon discovered by the various citizens who drank it, as a remedy for different diseases. It was used to such an extent that the water was submitted to chemical analysis and it was discovered that it was composed of various minerals, principally carbonate of iron, with a fair percentage of carbonate of magnesia and sulphate of soda, together with various solutions of lithia, ammonia, lime, calcium, sodium, iodide of

sodium, and several other ingredients. The carbonate of iron was considered a fine tonic, as it helps digestion and reddens the blood globules, and persons partaking of this water as a treatment for general diseases were greatly benefited. Sparta became somewhat famous as a health resort, people coming from long distances to drink the waters and to take treatments at the Turkish bath establishment. At the present time this business has again been revived and the basement of the Warner House fitted up as a sanitarium.

In 1867 J. D. Condit purchased the Warner House and entered into the management of it; this was a year in which considerable building was accomplished, notably, the woolen factory, which was completed and put in operation in September; the manufacture of printing paper at the paper mill was begun; the brick building two stories high across from the Hotel Lewis was built in this year and owned jointly by Palmer, Gage, T. B. Tyler and Simpson & Co. A large brick school building was erected on the site where the grade school now stands and the building at that time was considered one of the best and cost $18,000.

In looking over old newspaper files for this year, 1867, it is amusing to know that a game of base-ball was played at Tomah in July between the Sparta Eagles and Tomah Amateurs, in which the score was fifty to thirty-five in favor of the Sparta Eagles.

An income tax which is now the subject of so much discussion is no new thing in the state, as it was in existence during the year 1867, but was finally discarded as a revenue measure. An issue of the Sparta Democrat, May 28, 1867, contains a statement published of the income taxes returned from the congressional district, comprising Vernon, Monroe, Juneau, Adams, Jackson, Clark, Trempeleau, Buffalo, Pierce, St. Croix, Polk and Burnett.

The Opera House block was built during 1867 and 1868 by Herman Greve and is the building which is still known as the old Opera block; J. A. Gillman built a grist mill on his land in the southern portion of the city in 1868, having previously straightened the river in order to make the water power; and the building of this mill created considerable litigation; the Dodge Brothers Company, of G. T., R. S. and H. K. Dodge, bought a building on corner of Main and Water of S. D. Jackson in 1872 and engaged in the mercantile business, which establishment is still conducted at the old site in a fine brick department

store building. The business is now known as the Dodge & Davis Department Store Company, a Corporation.

Rice & Burton engaged in the grocery business at the corner of Franklin and Water streets, the firm subsequently becoming Burton & Graves, and they continued in business for several long years and only retired in 1910. D. J. Lambourn opened a drug store in 1870 and Ira A. Hill entered into the same business in July, 1871. In 1872 L. M. Newbury and J. P. Ward erected a large foundry, known as Sparta Iron Works, which has several times been enlarged and is now owned and controlled by the Canfield Brothers, Lee and Robert, and does a flourishing business in the manufacture of well drilling machinery.

In 1873 the building of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad through the village marked a new incident in its history; and the village, in order to get this railroad, paid the company $50,000 and considerable difficulty arose over the issue of these bonds in subsequent years, but they were all finally paid and the village relieved from the burden of this great debt. These bonds were voted by the citizens believing that the railroad would open up for better trade, a very fertile region lying on the southeast and especially from the Ridge country and beyond; though at this time there were several stage lines running out of Sparta to Cataract, Wilton, Ontario and Viroqua; these lines were run on a regular scheduled time table like a railroad and carried freight and passengers.

The next decade marked a very substantial growth to the village, not only in building but in trade and general progress, with the exception of a drawback or two caused by disastrous fires. And in 1876, in common with villages and cities everywhere throughout the United States, Sparta held a fitting celebration of the centennial year; not only the commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the independence of this country, but also to celebrate the progress of this hustling little village.

In 1876 the Seminary building at the corner of Main and K streets was commenced in the latter part of September by the Sisters of Charity of La Crosse; this was the start of an institution which has grown to large proportions and become one of the valuable educational institutions in this part of the state and is treated more extensively at another place in this work.

On the 28th of September in this year occurred one of the most disastrous fires which has ever visited the village or city; it commencing at Lee & Palmer's livery stable, in which a large

part of their equipment, including fifteen horses, was lost, and it spread on Water street and crossed over to Oak street and destroyed Heller's dry goods store, then situated on the corner; the property which was burned including the bus barn of Holbrook & Lee; Heller building and stock of dry goods; the building of James Francis; Henry Foster building and stock of harness goods; the William Kerrigan building; J. N. Wagoner building; John Matchett Hotel and furniture; C. H. Ford hop house and fixtures; G. B. Holden lost his valuable library; the preparations for fighting fire were then not of the best, but finally was checked, the total loss of something over $40,000, which was a severe blow to the business interests of the village at this time. Investigation failed to trace the cause of the fire, although it was decided that it must have been of incendiary origin. Most of the buildings were rebuilt soon after, including the Heller block, which was erected in a more substantial manner than ever and a new stock of goods bought and opened for business within a year.

On the 22nd day of February, 1877, Sparta had been settled for such a length of time that some of its citizens then considered themselves "old settlers" and they had a pioneer reunion in the Ida Hall, one at which the loudest kind of a time is recorded. The principal movers in this celebration were C. B. McClure, Elsa Rice, T. B. Tyler, S. N. Dickinson, J. J. French, S. F. Holbrook, C. W. McMillan, W. H. Blyton, N. P. Lee, J. King, H. Austin, Z. K. Jewett, J. B. Palmer.

In 1887 George Matchett assumed control of the Ida House, which he conducted for several years. Thayer & Kingman erected the brick building now occupied by the Monroe County Bank and in the same summer and at the same time J. A. Harvey and Jacob Schram erected brick blocks.

Early in 1877 an excavation was commenced for the building of the new Warner House as it now stands and in 1879 the celebration of the completion of this building was undertaken on a large scale; J. D. Condit was owner and builder and the citizens took part in this matter of so dedicating this fine hotel structure in good style; committees were appointed which included the names of prominent citizens in all of the nearby villages and towns and invitations were issued quite generally and which were responded to very liberally. Guests arrived from Milwaukee, La Crosse, Winona, Tomah, Kendall, Black River Falls, Mauston and even some from St. Paul and Minneapolis to join the festivity, and a banquet was served, followed

by dancing, which was kept up until the small hours of the morning. The receipts of the occasion were $765.50 and the amount of enjoyment gotten out of the occasion by the participants was on an equally large scale.

On September 17 of this year Viroqua celebrated the opening of the new railroad known as the "Viroqua Branch" from Sparta through that city; a special train was run and a large number of the citizens participated in the celebration.

Having survived floods, fires, panics and other smaller drawbacks it still remained for Sparta to have a cyclone and this came in due time, striking the city about 9:30 on the morning of June 10, 1880, and for a time the destruction of the entire city seemed imminent; as it was, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway engine house was wrecked; M. B. Oster's hop house was blown down; J. L. Woy's elevator was unroofed; the depot school house was moved off its foundation six or eight feet while school was in session; the roof was blown off the D. D. Cheney building on Water street; numerous chimneys were blown down in different parts of the city; at the north school house the teacher, Jessis McMillan, and one pupil were struck by lightning; Patt Moss also experienced a shock and was knocked flat. The house of A. B. Holden was blown down and the buildings on the fair ground wrecked.

In 1881 Sparta arrived at the dignity of having an opera house with a real stage, which was completed in what was known as the Old Opera block by Ira A. Hill and T. B. Tyler, who then owned the building; the stage was nicely fitted up and equipped with scenery and good setting was furnished for the house and for a long term of years was the opera house for entertainments of all kinds, including roller skating.

There was little of general interest during the next ten or twelve years, with the exception of the fact that it was incorporated as a city in 1883 and during this period two of Sparta's beautiful churches were erected and the armory building was also put up; in 1888 the Methodist Church congregation erected and completed their new church, which has since been remodeled and enlarged, however, but this building was the first real substantial structure owned by the Methodist Society.

In the following year the dawn of better municipal improvements came with the purchase of M. A. Thayer of machinery with which to establish an electric light plant; this was put into operation in a year or two with the main plant at the village of Angelo, run by water power. This was the beginning of the

excellent electric lighting system which is now enjoyed by the inhabitants of the city, having been later acquired by the O. I. Newton Sons' Company and enlarged and improved so that at the present time there are two plants, one at the Angelo dam and the other at the old paper mill dam in the city, furnishing street lighting and power for machinery and an excellent system of lighting for stores and residences.

In 1889 the Congregational Society completed its beautiful church; and to Dr. William Crawford is due great credit for the successful carrying out of this great undertaking. Few cities of its size can boast of so beautiful a church structure; after two and one-half years of struggle the society, on August 20, 1889, held the dedicatory exercises and the church was opened for religious service.

Following the installation of an electric light plant an agitation for a system of water works began in 1890, but owing to the state of the city's finances during that year no move was made to install such a system.

Sparta having maintained a military company for a great many years, being known then as Company I of the Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, and the company having occupied different buildings during its career and suffered twice from loss by fire, the patriotic citizens of the city got together and formed an Armory Association; George Dunn was elected president and William H. Blyton secretary; this organization took prompt steps towards the erection of a commodious armory; stock was sold and money sufficient for the purpose collected, and that year a contract for the building was let to J. W. Blake, of Viroqua, for $4,850; December 18, 1890, the building was opened for use by the public; the dedication was observed by an address by John J. Esch, which was followed by a musical entertainment, being the production of a "Trial by Jury," a Gilbert and Sullivan opera given by local people; this building was maintained for a number of years by the Armory Association, being rented by the military company for its armory, and has at various times been improved; it has now passed out of the hands of the Armory Association, as the purpose of this organization has been accomplished, and it is now owned by the Abonita Guard Association, which is the civil organization comprising the members of Company L of the Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, and such members as have served a certain time of enlistment in the company; the society is prac-

tically free from debt and improvements are under contemplation, to be made during the year 1912.

The Seventh Day Advent Church was erected and dedicated by the society on the 31st day of May, 1890.

On August 19, 1891, the corner-stone of the Masonic Temple on the corner of Main and Water streets was laid with impressive ceremonies. Within the stone were deposited articles of historical interest which may some day come to light. The building has been greatly improved since then and is owned by the Valley Lodge No. 60, Free and Accepted Masons.

Coming down to the year 1896, an unprecedented growth in the city by the erection of business buildings, public buildings and residences; it perhaps marks the year of the greatest growth that Sparta has ever enjoyed and the cost and number of the buildings erected during that year are worthy of note; a complete list of all the money expended in building is not here given, but the following is the list of the buildings erected:

High school, $23,000; grade school, $13,000; boiler house, $850; depot primary, $500; state school buildings, $7,500; First Baptist Church, $5,000; improvements on St. John's Church, $400.

Business Buildings.—W. G. Williams, $8,000; W. C. Hoffman, $3,000; E. E. Olen, $6,000; C. E. Rich, $1,500; Roelston & Rosing, $3,800; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul warehouse, $2,000; Ira A. Hill, improvements to Opera block, $2,000.

Residences.—F. W. Swarthouse, $4,000; J. M. Fanning, South Water street, $1,600; E. I. Waring, Jefferson avenue, $700; H. Ranum, Montgomery street, $1,000; Ben Phillips, East Main street, $700; D. F. Jones, Water street, $1,500; C. E. Lake, Water street, $2,000; J. E. Broadwell, Court street, $1,000; W. W. Hubbard, Pearl street, $1,200; B. E. McCoy, South Water street, $700; Charles Abrahamson, South Water street, $1,200; J. P. Rice, South Court street, $2,000; P. S. Sparling, $2,000; John Smith, North Benton street, $1,200; D. A. Baldwin, $1,800; George H. Chaffee, Long Court street, five cottages aggregating $7,300; George Newton, North Water street, improvements, $1,500.

The total amount which was put into buildings and improvements for that year was $115,400.

It is noticeable how low the amounts are as compared with the cost of building materials at the present day.

In the previous year, 1895, the Odd Fellows dedicated their

new hall and in the following year, 1897, the Baptist Church was finished and dedicated on the 7th day of February, and the year 1896 also saw the dedication of the magnificent new court house erected by the county of Monroe; the exercises took place on the 13th day of March in that year and were attended by representatives from every town, village and city in the county of Monroe; the exercises were followed by a banquet in the evening, with probably more oratory let loose than had ever before been the case in Monroe county, for it was a proud occasion for the citizens of this county; they had erected and completed a court house which is a model both for beauty and usefulness. The excellent arrangement of the business offices and court rooms and the provisions of ample vault space for several long years to come, was a wise foresight of the building committee.

Military circles were astonished by the fact that Company I of the Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, was mustered out in 1895 and the citizens became thoroughly aroused with regard to the necessity of giving more support to a military company; steps were immediately taken to reorganize the company and a temporary organization was perfected at which T. O. Thorbus was elected captain; F. L. French, first lieutenant, and R. B. McCoy, second lieutenant.

Enlistments were rapidly procured and on July 15, 1896, a new company, known as Company L, Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, was mustered in by Col. Charles King, the adjutant general of the state of Wisconsin, the same official who had mustered out Company I; R. B. McCoy was mustered in as captain; F. L. French as first lieutenant, and John P. Rice, second lieutenant; a large audience attended the exercises and the citizens of Sparta felt that they had redeemed themselves in this particular. But there is one thing which this history will not fail to record, and that is that while the citizens of Sparta are patriotic, they have not at all times interested themselves in the military company and it has been hard work for the officers of the company to overcome the opposition which has been offered to the enlistment of young men and it has been difficult at times to maintain the company standard.

Under Captain McCoy the company was rapidly brought to a high state of efficiency, and none too soon, for it was destined to some active service. Trouble had been brewing for some time in Cuba and early in 1898 war being declared by this country against Spain, there were exciting times in Sparta. To the

President's call for troops Wisconsin quickly responded, and on April 28th, with flags flying, cheered by thousands of friends and relatives, Company L boarded the special train which carried a part of the Third regiment to Camp Harvey at Milwaukee. The record of the company is told elsewhere and is a good one.

Spring, summer and fall passed slowly. The boys at the front were sadly missed. Eagerly the newspapers were read for news of them and a letter from one of the company in Porto Rico was an event. The glad news flashed over the wires the latter part of October that the Third regiment had landed in New York. Great preparations were made to receive the company, and at 10:30 a. m., October 30th, the company arrived, truly having the appearance of veterans. The celebration was elaborate and joyful, with a note of sadness for those who had been left behind.

The war over, business once more settled down to its usual routine. Rumors came that the American Cigar Company desired to establish a company in this part of the state for the sorting of tobacco, and steps were immediately taken to secure the locating of it, and the efforts of the citizens who had the matter in charge were so successful that in May, 1899, assurance was given that the plant would come to this city. Later on ground was purchased and buildings were erected, which were completed and opened for business January 12, 1902; a capacity for the handling of 1,800,000 pounds of tobacco, or about 60,000 cases, and during the sorting season the plant employs in the neighborhood of 400 hands.

Other good news came to Sparta in 1899, and that was the purpose of H. J. Heintz to erect a salting station in this city, which was done in that year, and subsequently enlarged, proving a great benefit to the farmers in the vicinity in encouraging the raising of cucumbers for pickles, for which a good price is paid.

What proved to be the most disastrous flood ever experienced in this city, or even in the county, occurred on the night of June 11th and 12th of 1899. The day had been pleasant up until 6 o'clock in the evening, when a storm gathered and broke over the city. For a time there was a bombardment of hail with it, then it settled down to a steady downpour of rain, which continued hour after hour nearly all night. An immense amount of water fell. The streams, brooks and rivers, especially the LaCrosse river and Beaver creek both ran over their banks and every creek and little rivulet in this part of the country overflowed, washed out roads, cultivated fields and bridges and caused great damage. The city got the full force of the storm

and the destruction of the Bacon dam followed the flood which came down Beaver creek. Lumber, boards, and even a hay stack or two were washed in with the torrent and lodged against the Bacon dam, and in spite of all that Mr. Bacon, with what help he could procure, could do, they were finally compelled to desist and the structure went out and was swept away down the stream. With the rush of this tremendous force against the northwest corner of the Conover building, which stood near the dam, it was seen that the building was in danger. Mr. Conover and his wife, who lived on the second floor of the building, were unaware of the situation, and being warned they took what clothing they could carry and escaped from the building just before it was undermined and swept into the flood. It fell into the flood and the water drove the ruins of the building against the bridge on Water street, and then with a tremendous noise it was hurled under the bridge and strewn all along the stream. Not a vestige of the building was left where it had stood. It was completely swept away and swallowed up by the flood. The C. E. Rich building next to it was threatened for some time, but the flood receded. Forces were organized toward morning and with bags of sand and trunks of trees kept the flood away from the building. Walrath creek rose to a tremendous height and swept out the Miller and Kasen dam, which had just been completed from a former flood. Telephone lines were down and all the bridges in the city except two were out of commission. The road to the Northwestern depot for some time was under two or three feet of water, and the whole river bottom below the paper mill was covered, while the houses adjoining the banks were partially submerged. The night of June 11th was a wild night in the city, one long to be remembered, for it seemed for a time as though the tremendous flood would carry away a portion of the business buildings which were situated next to Beaver creek, and luckily no lives were lost. No estimate has been made of the actual damage, but it reached a large sum.

For the second time within the period of little over a year Sparta experienced another serious flood on the nights of October 27th and 28th. Beaver creek, running through the heart of the city, with a reputation for mischief of many years past, rose to the highest point it had ever reached, and owing to the fact that the two dams upon it were in better shape to resist the flood than ever before, no great damage was done. The Bacon and Evans dams, however, both went out eventually without any injury to any of the buildings around its banks, but the bridge

approaches at Montgomery, Main and Oak streets were severely damaged and the abutments of the Oak street bridge were so badly torn that they had to be rebuilt. The LaCrosse river also rose rapidly and flooded the low sections between Railroad street and Court street, which looked so threatening that the fire alarm was rang and the people routed out. The LaCrosse river reached such a height on Long court and the flat in front of it that the sidewalk to the Northwestern depot was carried over to the west side of the street, and some of the dwellings were flooded. Quite serious damage was done at the Newton plant at Angelo, where they were making extensive repairs to the dam. The coffer-dam was carried out and the whole plant had a narrow escape from destruction.

As a result of correspondence conducted in the previous year or two Dr. F. P. Stiles received a letter dated February 8, 1902, from Andrew Carnegie, agreeing to give $10,000 to the city of Sparta for the erection of a public library. The city council accepted the offer, which resulted in the handsome building now occupied by the city library, which has proven to be a great boom to the people of the city.

In 1903 the citizens of Sparta planned and carried out a Fourth of July celebration which is worthy of note. The preparations were elaborate and quite unique. After an immense parade in the morning with the usual exercises, in the afternoon, upon stages which had been erected in the street, free performances were given for the people by artists hired for that purpose, which continued during the entire afternoon and evening. This method was so successful that it has been carried on in many of the large cities of the state in celebrations of this character.

In December, 1903, the city of Sparta took an appeal from the equalization of assessments made by the county board to the circuit court of Monroe county. The board appointed Van S. Bennett, of Viroqua; Chester Lyon, of Mauston, and C. S. Van Auken, of LaCrosse, as the commissioners. After a thorough investigation and a hearing at which a large number of witnesses were sworn, the commission found in favor of the city of Sparta and reduced the assessed valuation of the city from $1,957,000 to $1,859,150, a reduction of about $88,000.

The year 1904 marked the passing away of several of Sparta's most prominent citizens. On February 16, 1904, David D. Cheney died at Biloxi, Miss. Mr. Cheney was one of the pioneers in the city of Sparta, a man who had accumulated large wealth by reason of his excellent business ability.

Soon afterwards the news flashed over the wires from Pasadena, Cal., that Ira A. Hill, one of Sparta's most prominent citizens, had died in that city on that date.

An event of some historical importance occurred on June 5, 1904, when the famous Liberty Bell, from the old statehouse in Boston, passed through here, being taken on a trip through the country so that the people might see this famous bell. The special train carrying it arrived late in the afternoon and halted at the station for about a half hour, giving the thousands of people who had collected ample opportunity to view it. When the train pulled out three mighty cheers were given for the "Old Liberty Bell." It certainly was a lesson to see the reverence with which this object was viewed by the people generally.

On Sunday morning, January 22, 1905, the St. Patrick's Catholic church was totally destroyed by fire. The fire started in the basement and before it could be brought under control the entire church was enveloped in the flames. It was an old wooden building, which had been first erected in 1867 down near the Milwaukee depot and moved to the present location in 1877. In 1883 St. Patrick's congregation was incorporated. The congregation luckily had $1,500 of insurance on the building, so that it was not a total loss. Steps were immediately taken for the erection of the handsome new church, and on Sunday, June 24, 1905, the corner-stone of the new edifice was laid with impressive ceremonies by Bishop Schweboch, of LaCrosse, and on June 5, 1907, the bishop again visited the church and presided at the dedication ceremonies, which were very elaborate. The equal of this beautiful building is hard to find in a city of this size anywhere in the state of Wisconsin. Its magnificent proportions are very sightly and the interior is handsomely appointed and decorated.

On October 26, 27 and 28 the Western Wisconsin Teachers' Association held its session in this city. There was an attendance of over 600 teachers, with several prominent educators, among them C. P. Cary, state superintendent of public instruction. This meeting was procured by the efforts of Prof. F. M. Jack, who was then superintendent of the Sparta schools. The sessions of the association were very interesting and instructive and the public addresses delivered by Mr. Cary and others were greatly enjoyed by the citizens of Sparta.

After a long series of years in which efforts had been made to collect sufficient funds, the soldiers' monument was at last completed. It was placed in the North park, and on May 30, 1905, it was formally dedicated and presented to the city. The

celebration was in charge of John W. Lynn post, Grand Army of the Republic, and a general invitation was issued to the citizens of the county to participate. The Henry W. Cressy post, G. A. R., of Tomah, came over, accompanied by their friends, 150 strong, bringing their drum corps; and a large representation was present from the towns, villages and cities of the county. A dinner was served at the armory from 11:30 to 12:30, and in the afternoon a great parade, led by the Sparta band of twenty-five pieces, headed by Company L and the Grand Army veterans, passed through the streets to North park, where the formal exercises were held. After an address by Mr. Beebe, giving the history of the monument, it was presented to the city by W. H. Blyton, and accepted in behalf of the city by A. J. Carnahan, president of the city council, after which an eloquent address was delivered by Congressman John J. Esch. Perhaps to Dr. D. C. Beebe more than any one man is credit due for the success of this great undertaking. He exerted great efforts to bring it about, and it was one of the proud moments of his life that he was able to stand before it and deliver his address, reciting the struggles which had been gone through to accomplish it.

On May 17, 1907, the new Bank of Sparta building was completed and opened for business; truly a handsome building, one of the best to be found in this part of the state, and reflects great credit upon its builders and the institution.

Sparta has had its full share of fire and floods, especially floods, and another disastrous one was experienced July 21, 1907. At this time, however, the damage which was done was not very serious and confined more to one locality in the city. The old Miller and Kaiser dam at the City mills, near the St. Paul depot, then owned by Bergman Brothers, again went out and the flood swept away the railroad bridge just below it. The bridge on East avenue was also let down on one end and so badly racked that it was some time before it was repaired so that travel could go over it.

October 10th the local camps of Independent Order of Odd Fellows entertained the state grand encampment of Odd Fellows. Many visitors were present and there was a large attendance of delegates from all over the state.

During 1908 a number of municipal improvements were undertaken, especially with regard to the sewer system in various parts of the city, and the year marked also the inauguration of the free letter carrier system by the post office department. This went into operation June 1, the city having been divided into

three districts, and as a result of civil service examinations here for the purpose, R. A. Merrill, J. R. Putman and H. G. Angle were appointed carriers.

Dr. D. C. Beebe, who was postmaster at the time the service was inaugurated, lived long enough to see it in full operation when he passed away on June 9, 1908, one of Sparta's most progressive and best loved citizens.

This year is also marked by taking from the ranks of its prominent men, Rufus S. Dodge, a pioneer merchant, who died July 31, 1908, very suddenly. The business which bears his name is one which has attracted attention to the city of Sparta, and is today its principal mercantile establishment.

An event of unusual interest in musical circles was a band carnival held on September 2 and 3, 1908, which was participated in by two regimental bands, the Third Regiment band from Viroqua and the First Regiment band of Baraboo, together with bands from Reedsburg, Tomah and Sparta. They were consolidated into one huge organization, which gave a parade in the business portions of the city, making a volume of tone which sounded like an immense pipe organ. Band concerts, horse racing and various sports furnished amusement and enjoyment to the vast throng of Sparta people and visitors who participated.

The Fair store, opposite the Hotel Lewis, was discovered to be on fire early in the morning of January 31, 1909, and for a time the entire block of business buildings was threatened. The weather was bitterly cold, but the firemen succeeded in confining the blaze in this building, which was completely burned inside, and the stock of general merchandise, owned by Sam Herch, was a total loss.

Henry Esch, father of Congressman John J. Esch, and one of the pioneer residents of the county, passed away early in April at a ripe old age.

Death also claimed T. O. Thorbus on September 28, 1909, after a brief illness. Mr. Thornbus was a very public-spirited citizen and held a prominent place in the community for many years.

December, 1909, marked the forming of the Jefferson Leaf Tobacco Company, under the management of W. T. Jefferson, formerly manager of the American Cigar Company plant in Sparta. The Jefferson company was incorporated and immediately secured the Shattuck building on Oak street, where the business of buying and selling tobacco is now conducted on a large scale.

A much-needed improvement was made by the city in the

spring and summer of 1910 in tearing up the old cedar pavement on Water street, from Franklin street south for several blocks, and putting in brick pavement with a solid concrete foundation. The work cost about $10,000, the most of which was borne by the adjacent property.

Old residents were made happy in May by a visit of Gov. James N. Gillett, of California, to his boyhood home. Sparta claims Governor "Jim" as its own, and he seemed to enjoy meeting old friends and acquaintances immensely and spent several days looking them up. The governor is one of the fine examples of what an American boy, without advantages, can make of himself, and his autobiography in another chapter should be read by everyone.

On May 25, 1910, at precisely 2:48 in the afternoon, the first spike was driven on the Milwaukee, Sparta & Northwestern Railway at the starting point of this new road in this city. The honor of performing this ceremony was given to William M. Forseman, the agent of the Northwestern company at Sparta, and was accomplished in the presence of several officials of the new company and many citizens, thus marking another epoch in the railway history of the city of Sparta and one which undoubtedly will prove to its advantages in the future.

After long efforts Congressman Esch was enabled to wire to Postmaster Brandt in June, 1910, the good news that he had secured an appropriation of $60,000 with which to purchase a site and erect a government postoffice building in Sparta. Later on the postoffice department sent a representative to the city to select a site, and after a thorough investigation this official announced his decision, favoring the lots back of the Warner House on the corner of Main and Court streets, including the Hemstock dray barn property. This site was subsequently purchased and a commodious postoffice building, containing offices for the officials of the government military reservation, will undoubtedly be erected within a year or two from the publication of this work.

Two of Sparta's pioneer citizens passed away in 1911. L. S. Fisher, many years postmaster, died March 17th, and John Moffat, one of the earliest settlers, who did much in the upbuilding of Sparta, died March 27th.

The year as a whole was uneventful, marked only by the natural growth of business, retarded somewhat by the rather stringent financial situation which prevailed for a time throughout the country.

The Sparta of 1912 is truly a beautiful, progressive, modern

little city, with its 4,000 people busy in various walks of life; its miles of paved streets, with beautiful boulevards in some portions; a little city whose inhabitants have given it a reputation not only for business, but as a cleanly and well kept town; carefully clipped lawns, well trimmed shade trees, homes neatly painted, all combine in the title so often heard, "Beautiful Sparta."

CHAPTER XXVI.

SPARTA SCHOOLS.

A woman, a rare and noble soul, whose name is numbered among the pioneers of '55, was given the task of first establishing the cause of education in the little village on the banks of Beaver creek, and it was not a task which she undertook at a request of any school board, but because she was a large-hearted, kind woman, well educated and bright, whose pity was aroused by the children of this little village roaming the streets without school advantages, that Elizabeth Trux voluntarily assumed the duties of teacher, procured a room and gathered around her eighteen pupils and thus inaugurated the cause of education in Sparta, and it grew mightily with the passage of time, from 1855, when the first school house was built, to the present. Her own language will convey the difficulty which was encountered by Mrs. Trux in this little pioneer school, and we here quote from an article written by her in 1897 the following:

"As there was no school here when we came and I had had some experience as a teacher, I opened a school on the 6th day of April, 1855, with eighteen children. Besides teaching them to read and spell I taught them to sew and to work perforated cardboard and often kept them with me for company until tea time, sometimes taking them out to pick flowers and winter-greens; I think they were all very happy and I am sure I was, for I loved the little ones dearly. There was at that time a frame building on the corner of Oak and Water streets, now occupied by the Williams block, facing Oak street, containing three rooms. One was Mr. S. D. Jackson's store, another the postoffice, and as the other had just been vacated we were fortunate to secure it. Here we kept house and taught school in the same room. In about two weeks Mr. Pott and Mr. Scheler with their families came from Pennsylvania and bought the building, so we were obliged to move into one room of what was known as the 'Old Log Fort,' which stood just back of where Mr. Foster's harness store now stands, facing Water street. Mr. Thomas Blyton's people lived in the next room and another family in the back

room. Our room contained our cook stove, bed, and such other furniture as we possessed, with the same benches made of slabs that we had in the other school room. More children came until we had twenty-eight in that small room and it was pretty well filled. In a few weeks Mr. Blyton's people moved into a house they had built and I had the room they vacated for a school room; new families came with more children, and our number increased until we had forty-seven. When the school had been running a little more than two months Mr. Edward Canfield, who owned the house, came from Connecticut with his family and wanted the whole of it, so the school had to be given up for want of a room in which to hold it.

"In June the first school house was built on the present site of the West Primary and is now occupied as a residence in the southwestern part of the city.

"Miss Ann Shepherd, an experienced teacher from Fond du Lac, was the first teacher in the first public school. I taught as a substitute for her for one month while she was sick, and such a school was never taught before; there were one hundred pupils of all ages, from all parts of the county, with the books they had brought with them, and as there were no books to be bought in Sparta, there were no two books alike, which made each pupil a separate class, and made it very hard for the teacher, as well as for the scholars. I sometimes wonder if the members of our schools at the present time can appreciate the wonderful privileges they have in getting an education."

Pioneer days in the schools were pretty much alike in this county, a story of struggles for better things, better school houses, better equipments, better teachers, better everything that starts the young American on his way in the world with something of an education, whether he is rich or poor; and progress at times found hanging on her skirt the old saying, "What is good enough for our forefathers is good enough for us" fallacy, but be it said to the credit of the good sense of the citizens of Sparta exercised as a whole that running through all the years has been a disposition to give to the schools anything which in reason ought to be provided, a loyalty which has borne rich fruit in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Perhaps there is no subject more choice to the people than the history of the schools of any community, for in a great degree characters are built, careers mapped out, and perhaps men of history here receive the fundamental education upon which to

build for the future. But of the details of the earlier years little can be gathered; with the gradual change of methods and better equipments the village schools kept pace with modern methods, resulting in the establishment of a high school which was accomplished during the time of Professor Bloomingdale. Of him no better description can be given than that which is contained in an article written by Dr. D. C. Beebe in 1897, after long service on the school board, from which we quote as follows:

"I see way back in the '60s an important personage in educational affairs here. He really is the pioneer, for no worthy pretentions to aggressive educational work were made here before his time. He was rough in manner, untidy in dress, of strong personality, had a tender heart, and an unflinching courage that never forsook his convictions, let come what would. Closely allied and almost inseparable, was the educational institution of the place at that time—the new brick school building just finished and equipped.

"Prof. J. Bloomingdale was not only principal and superintendent of the Sparta schools, but he was the oracle, the compendium, the beginning and end of all matters that savored of public education. He planned with great nicety the new school building, and superintended its construction with jealous care; and when it was completed, it was to him the embodiment of all that was then worth knowing in school architecture. I remember distinctly the first quasi-theatrical that I enjoyed in the new building on one public Friday. It was a grand success. The house was filled with proud fathers and mothers. The stage appointments were admirable, and the costumes of the players all that the delighted patrons could wish. The principal, with unshaven face and bushy, frouzled hair, seemed enveloped in a halo of glory as the good work went on.

"Professor Bloomingdale was a type and teacher of the old school, and as such he held the ground without a rival. Death called him home before his eyes ever saw the dawn of the new educational era. What seemed to him to be the acme of schoolhouse perfection fell far short of what is demanded for our children today."

The building mentioned in the foregoing quotation was the brick high school building built on the present site of the grade school in 1868-69 at a cost of about $13,000, and was considered at that time as a high school building well in advance of the usual buildings devoted to this purpose. How the school

system developed is concisely and entirely described by William H. Blyton in an article on the Sparta schools, from which we quote very freely as follows:

"Prior to 1876 the progress of our schools was retarded by false notions of economy. To be sure, we had built from time to time fairly good school buildings, but evidently but little care was given to the matter of selecting experienced teachers. If a suitable and competent principal was secured it seemed to be the policy of the authorities to fill the other places in the schools at the lowest possible cost. Not until after a special meeting of the electors of the district, which was held on the 27th of July, 1876, at which time the people there present unanimously resolved to organize a free high school district under the law of the state, being chapter 322, general laws of 1875, was sufficient attention given to the selection of subordinate teachers and adopting wholesome rules and regulations. When this was done the school seemed to at once spring into new life and began to attract attention. Sparta schools had been under the immediate care and direction of Professors Bloomingdale, Smith, Cummings, Winter and Clark, and the corps of teachers have been increased from seven in 1870 to sixteen in 1897. The question of providing more and better accommodations for the school appeared to have been settled for all time, as many of our people then supposed, by the erection of the high school building in 1868-69 at a cost of $13,000, but as the population of the district increased the demand for more and better school buildings became so pressing that notwithstanding the additions and alterations heretofore made to the several buildings the school board at the annual district meeting on July 1, 1895, reported as follows:

" 'The problem of what we are to do with our overcrowded school without more school room, has confronted the school board for more than a year. When the present high school building was built the school census of the district showed between 500 and 600 children of school age, the census just taken shows over one thousand children of school age. It has finally come to this—something must be done, some plan must be devised that will relieve these overcrowded schools or they will greatly suffer for the ensuing year. Indeed, if no relief is provided the board is of the opinion that the half-day plan should be adopted and preferable to crowding so many pupils together.' Upon the foregoing report and at the suggestion of many citizens the people were prompted to act, and the result was finally recorded on July 8, 1895, by the adoption of proper legal resolutions authorizing

the raising of necessary funds to purchase additional ground and to build a new high school building."

"The school board immediately took the proper steps to secure the necessary ground, caused plans and specifications to be prepared for such new building, and on the 26th day of September, 1895, awarded the contract for the new building to L. V. Huschka, of Sparta, for the sum of $18,379.66, and work thereon was promptly begun, and the present high school building was completed and ready for occupancy September 1, 1896. The destruction of the old high school building by fire on December 2, 1895, again called for prompt action and an additional outlay of money. Again the people were assembled in special meeting on December 30, 1895, to authorize the construction of a new building to take the place of the one destroyed, which was done without a dissenting voice. On July 6, 1896, at the annual meeting of the district, more money was voted and the result of the action of the taxpayers in the district is the two fine, substantial school buildings of which we are all so justly proud. With the loss of the West Primary building by fire on January 3, 1892, the high school building on December 2, 1895, and the W. C. T. U. building, in which the high school was temporarily located, on April 6, 1896, it will be seen that the duties of the school officers and teachers have not been altogether easy to perform and the demands on the taxpayers by no means light. However, we have survived and today we are in possession of fine buildings and equipments which have cost as follows:

"High school building, $18,379.66; seating and furnishing, $938.75; intermediate building, $12,280; seating and furnishing, $628.55; Depot school building, $601.05; boiler house and boiler, $1,703; East Primary building, $1,200; West Primary building, $4,020.55; estimated value of school grounds, $9,800; making a grand total of $49,551.56 invested for school purposes. The annual current expenses of conducting the schools have increased from $6,668.24 in 1876 to $11,617.76, being an increase of $4,949.52. While this is quite a large increase it is not so large in proportion as the increase in the number of scholars."

The above article, written in 1897, certainly shows a remarkable amount of progress made in the building of buildings and equipping the high school and the ward schools of the city, and since that time new school houses have been built for the depot primary and the east and west primaries so that the buildings now owned by the school district are all modern and up-to-date in every particular, and with the addition of a department of

domestic science and another of manual training in connection with the high school, has brought the Sparta schools down to the present time as thoroughly equipped and efficiently managed, giving all the advantages that any high school in the state can offer, except, perhaps, not as complete equipped in the laboratory for scientific investigation or as large a reference library as is desirable.

The training of the child has indeed largely changed in the last forty or fifty years; not only in the course of study arranged for his benefit mentally, but also much attention is paid to the physical growth and restraints of bad habits of body. Sensible, muscle-making and health-giving athletic exercises are now recognized as of imperative importance. A substantial foundation for special or professional work is now laid in the high school. For not only is domestic science and manual training taught, but stenography, typewriting, bookkeeping and commercial pursuits are also a part of the courses of study. Scientific methods of inquiry on particular lines of knowledge as developed through laboratory work and in other ways in bringing practical education to every high school student, in fact, in all lines and in all courses of study the Sparta high school has proved to be one of the best and has turned out many fine examples of young American manhood and womanhood, whose careers as citizens in various parts of the country have demonstrated the thoroughness with which the foundition of their education and physical lives was wrought.

"ATHLETICS."

In the earlier days in the high school baseball was more or less prominent, and in fact was the principal game to which attention was devoted by the students, and perhaps was never better played than in the time of Professor Winters. At that time the McCoy boys, S. R. Burroughs, Palmer, Beck brothers, Calhoun and Leyden were almost expert players. Later came Gould, Burr and Moseley, who had foremost parts in connection with the game. In the spring of '96 Sparta won the championship of the Western Wisconsin High Schools for baseball. Track and field athletics began with the advent of Mr. A. F. Barnard as a teacher in the school during '94 and '95. A field day was held in June, 1895, between the Mauston and Sparta schools at the latter place, and Sparta won many of the events. This was nothing more than a start, however, and during the succeeding year a league was formed called "The West Wisconsin High

School Athletic League,'' which had in view the promotion and maintenance of general athletics and comprising the towns of Viroqua, Tomah, Mauston and Sparta, and the field day between the teams representing these several towns was held at Sparta, June 6, 1896. This league was maintained for two or three years, but owing to the lack of support on the part of the various organizations, it was finally dropped.

It is to be regretted that more records were not kept of the various athletic events during the past years with which the high school has been connected, but as a rule since '96, when athletics took in a larger field of events, including football and the ordinary track and field sports, the Sparta high school has maintained a prominent place in high school athletics and at times has taken a championship or two.

Particular attention during the latter years has been paid to the football team, and perhaps the greatest success was attained by the team of 1908, under the captainship of Earle Jefferson, when the Sparta team, having defeated LaCrosse in past contests for seven straight times on the home grounds, an exciting game was played at LaCrosse between the two teams on Thanksgiving day. Fully five hundred people went to LaCrosse on that day to witness the game and give moral and ''vocal'' support to the Sparta team. The game was close, well contested and exciting throughout, the score finally being twelve to ten in favor of Sparta, and this added eight straight victories over LaCrosse. It was indeed a victory, for LaCrosse had been very energetic in perfecting her team and had gone to considerable expense in employing a coach, the home team having been coached by Dr. Barlow, a dentist residing in the city, himself an athlete and deeply interested in everything that pertained to athletics. An athletic association exists in connection with the high school to which students are eligible, and it is connected with the Interscholastic Athletic Association of Wisconsin, under the rules of which all contests are held.

THE SPARTAN.

A little quarterly magazine, entiled The Spartan, is published by the students of the high school, which originated in the early part of the fall term of 1885. Numerous publications were received from different schools and colleges in Wisconsin and the neighboring states, among them being the University Press and Badger of our own state. As these papers continued to arrive and were almost invariably accompanied by requests for an ex-

change, the idea gradually suggested itself that the high school might be able to get out a journal of its own, and after considerable investigation it was finally decided to publish a school paper, and with that end in view the students proceeded to elect a board of editors, and The Spartan made its first appearance on the 20th of November, 1885. In its first issue the purpose of the publication was set forth as follows:

The Spartan aims first, to be a true representative of the Sparta High School. It is to be the production of the scholars as a body. Its columns will always be open for the expression of honest opinions, and the only test for the admission of articles will be merit and originality. We purpose to insert each month several original essays on live subjects, subjects that will be interesting both to the students and to the community at large. No pains will be spared in making the alumni column one of the most valuable departments of the paper, for we wish The Spartan to be indispensable to all graduates and former students of the school.'' The editorial board of the publication was selected from different classes, each class having one or more representatives. At the outset it was the intention to publish the paper once each month, but owing to the amount of school work that was not always found advisable, so that it resolved publications of four numbers each year.

Outside of the articles contributed by students there have been frequent articles by the alumni and former members of the school, which, from time to time, have proved of great interest. It is the plan of each board of editors to produce an attractive and valuable magazine, and particular attention is paid to the printing and illustrations. The paper is supported principally from subscriptions of the students and alumni and quite an amount is also received from advertisements, and the business and professional men of the city are glad to render assistance to this meritorious work by giving small advertisements, which are carried throughout the year. The little paper has proved to be of considerable value in preserving in this form the records of graduating classes and of some athletic events, and also oratorical contests and debates. It was published for two years, completing two volumes of eight numbers each, after which the publication was dropped for a number of years. It was finally revived in 1898 and has been published continuously ever since, having reached its fifteenth volume in the school year of 1911 and 1912, and now is one of the permanent institutions of the high school.

SOCIETIES.

Numerous societies sprung up, had their day, and were no more, especially those of a musical nature, although in 1908, 1909 and 1910 a very creditable glee club was maintained among the boys of the high school known as the "Owl Glee Club." It has a membership of something like twenty voices, and was quite successful in its work. There was also a girls' glee club, called the "Greig Choral Society," and in the fall of 1909 a high school orchestra made its bow to the public and proved to be a very popular organization during its one or two seasons of existence. The oldest society in point of years is the Jefferson Debating Club for boys, which was organized during the fall of 1897 and has been in existence ever since. This is a society conducting debates and literary exercises and has developed good material and furnished several debating teams, which in the past has held up the honor of Sparta High in contests with other schools.

The Girls' Athena Society, a debating club, is also successfully maintained, and its meetings have proved to be interesting and instructive to its members. The athletic society has been previously mentioned. But, perhaps, the most interesting association from the point of its membership is, of course, the Alumni Association, which numbers as its members all of the living graduates of the Sparta High School. This association meets once a year, during the holiday season, between Christmas and New Year's, and indulges usually in a reception and a banquet, followed by a program of varied interest.

This society numbers among its members many who have achieved prominence in different walks of life. They are scattered in many states and to attempt to enumerate them would be a task indeed, and we will be content with mentioning here some of the more prominent. Of course there comes to the mind at once the name of John J. Esch, who has achieved a national reputation in congress as the representative from this district; Frank Oster, Julian Bennett and Howard Teasdale, all have been mentioned in a previous chapter on the legal fraternity; Corwin J. Steele, of the class of '77, became a prominent physician at Milwaukee, Wis.; Dr. Carl Beebe and Dr. Spencer Beebe, now both of this city, prominent physicians in this part of the state; Dr. Albert J. Miller, of the class of '92, who served in the Philippines in the United States troops, and is now located in California; A. R. Smith, of '87, an attorney practicing at Bara-

boo; R. B. McCoy, at present county judge of Monroe county; S. R. Burroughs, quite prominent in insurance circles, who engages in business now in Sparta. There are quite a number of the legal fraternity who did not graduate from the Sparta High School but received a portion of their education in it, who are all referred to in a previous chapter on the "legal fraternity."

Among the alumnæ may be mentioned Miss Laura Miller, now a prominent educator in Montana; Miss Bell Ady, who graduated from the school in '81, afterwards taking a course of music in the Boston Conservatory, and for some time filled a position in the Sparta school; Mary L. Bisbee, a poet of her school generation, now in California. But to go over the whole list will consume more space than we can devote to the subject and it will suffice to say that the graduates of Sparta High School as a rule have made good.

The following is a complete list of the graduates of Sparta High School, arranged by classes, from 1877 to and including 1912:

Class of 1877—Mary E. Greene, Emma McKenzie, Mary McKenzie, William J. Hughes, Lizzie H. Palmer, Annie Streeton and Corwin J. Steele.

Class of 1878—Addie Ellis, W. F. Sawyer, Hallie Smith, Julian Bennett, R. F. Jones, Fannie Palmer, Eliza Canfield, Frank Oster, Jessie McMillan, J. C. Prill, Kate Irwin, Howard Teasdale, John J. Esch, Stella Brock, E. K. Holden and Lizzie Hill.

Class of 1879—Jennie Wells, Mary Harr, Mary Morrow, Charles J. Smith, Sarah Gould, Mary Foote, Josie Fisk, Charles L. Smith, Lillie Sarles, Nellie Harvey, Florence Thayer, William Graves and Ella James.

Class of 1881—Angie Dorwin, Mamie Merrill, Franc McMillan, Belle Ady, Lottie King and Etta Kilmer.

Class of 1882—George Grossman, Alvin Regan, Addie M. Sabin, Fannie Cook, Wm. F. Jones, Louis Brooks, Jennie McMillan and Gertie Bancroft.

Class of 1883—Stella Bancroft and Luella Tyler.

Class of 1884—George Petis, Flora Dalaba, Lou Baldwin, Mamie Sarles, Anna Beckler, Minnie Lee, George Stevens, Neeta Baldwin, Nellie Hanchett and Carl Beebe.

Class of 1886—Franc C. Angle, George E. Gray, Rose E. Heller, Miriam J. Jewett, Hattie W. Lawrence, Dora E. Link, Mary A. Smith, Walter M. Smith and Mary P. Spafford.

Class of 1887—Robert B. McCoy, Laura L. Miller, Nellie A.

Morse, Everett R. Pease, Alonzo R. Smith and Grace M. McWithey.

Class of 1888—Julia M. Beebe, Mary L. Bisbee, Mary B. Brooks, Martha Davenport, Grace E. Lee, Kate McMillan, Lillian M. Moffatt, Anton Moe and C. Floyd McClure.

Class of 1889—Spencer D. Beebe, Josephine Brennan, Pauline M. Bedenk, Agnes Davenport, Robert B. Dunlevy, Walter E. Kaser, Charles J. O'Connor, John W. Palmer, Lillian B. Clark, Helen R. Gray, Eva A. Gray, Gertrude Nutting, Margaret B. Lewis, Harriet Richardson, John M. Fanning and Carl M. Newberry.

Class of 1890—George W. Ascott, Harry D. Baldwin, Seth R. Burroughs, Mary M. Calhoun, Wm. B. Calhoun, Olive C. Chadsey, John L. Herbst, Louis T. Hill, Alice K. Hill, Albert E. Hollister, Frank W. Horner, Harriet M. Manley, Lelia R. Palmer, Helen Richardson, Bertha Sargent, William Thorbus, Mina M. Ware and Henry A. Waste.

Class of 1891—Flora A. Angle, Margaret A. Jones, George M. Link, Mabel L. Masters, Lila D. Newberry, Mabel A. Payne, Louise Foote, Clare L. McMillan, Charles Stimson, Maggie Taylor and Hugh H. Williams.

Class of 1892—Mame L. Beebe, Frederick Brooks, Nellie Cargill, Albert Fonken, Ella L. Hewitt, Carl H. Lewis, Clara Olson, Albert L. Miller, K. Josephine Mueller and William D. Tallman.

Class of 1893—Bess R. Baldwin, Nellie Dodge, Inez E. Berry, Alice Hettman, Maude Jewett, Della Johnson, Kate McAuliffe, Leonora O'Connor, Eva J. Rhodes, Kate H. Sterger, Nellie E. Sullivan, Julia White, William P. Dunlevy, Daniel Fisk, Will Ford, Carl Foster, Clarence Fulmer, Milon R. Gould, Edmund Gray, Henry C. Hanson, Theodore Lewis, Ossian R. Link, Will G. Merrill, John Schram and Jessie M. Wright.

Class of 1894—Nellie M. Bnsh, John M. Woy, Emma E. Gantka, Bernard Mulrenin, Lena A. Wright, Rose L. Finn, Carrie A. Huffman, Anna J. Evans, Stella O. Thorbus, Clara A. Fowler, Jessie J. Sias, Ruth M. Hanchett, Jas. J. Bowler, Maude Woy, Anna B. Durrie, Mary A. Barber, Tillie I. Olson, Thresia Ingersoll, Lulu E. Bush, Josephine Erickson, Arthur Hollenbeck and Nellie Throbus.

Class of 1895—Herbert N. Leete, Bessie Rutledge, Joseph Brown, Jessie Lake, Edward E. Sands, Silas M. Lewis, Harold Stevens, Lena Freenlee, George Dudley, Minnie Van Antwerp, Addie King, Rollie Hogue, George Bowler, Wayne Moseley, Ger-

trude Nodine, Josie Dammon, Maggie Bowler, Milo Babcock and Carl H. Gould.

Class of 1896—Arthur Ayers, George Esch, Clyde Smith, Alfred White, Grace Brown, Lula Converse, Ella Erickson, Effie King, John Brown, Frank Frazier, Griffith Roberts, Robert Teall, Susan Beswick, Nellie Brown, Anna Doxrud, Nellie Freeman, Ella Mulrenin and Etta McIntyre.

Class of 1897—Letha Ordway, Blanche Webb, Nettie Lewis, May Varlin, Mabel McGary, Anna Jenkins, Nellie Sias, Allie Burroughs, Sadie Hettman, Carl Newton, Colburn White, Jason Williams, Herman Hanchett, Ray Palmer, Nellie Jones, Lillian L. Dudley, George Hanchett and Frank Schneller.

Class of 1898—Alice Beebe, Norman Durrie, Ella Esch, Blanche Gray, Mark Jewett, Gertrude Jones, Bess Palmer, Francis Seidell, Nellie Bradley, Nellie Woods, Evan Evans, Jane Gallagher, Earl Howard, Earl Kemp, Winnie Mulrenin and Myrtle Wood.

Class of 1899—Stena Sands, Grace Blackman, Agnes Bowler, Paul Bush, Sadie Edminson, Susie Fish, Genevra Johnson, Elma Landt, Hattie Murphy, Louis Nelson, Mae Robinson, Emma Saxton, Marie Seidel, Winnifred Smith, Annie Teall, Georgie Whitcomb, Ella Bowler, Mabel Bush, Fred Chamberlain, Dorothy Everett, Clara Jackson, Elizabeth Jenkins, Charlotte Shermer and Harry Masters.

Class of 1900—Anna Abrahams, Dona Brownell, Blanche Chamberlain, May Hubbard, Gertrude McAuliffe, Anna Nyberg, Katherine Romanowsky, Netta Sholts, Mabel Tuthill, Alfred Clark, Augusta Dellman, Tillan Goltz, Elizabeth Homer, Mattie Howard, Ward Jewett, Dwight Leete, Blanche Morrison, Hilda Olson, Ethel O'Leary, Norton Saxton, Ernest Servis, Fred Smith, Bess Thayer and Angeline Taylor.

Class of 1901—Carrie Ditman, Blanche Boyden, Elsie Cameron, Jennie Johnson, Fern Scott, Ida Clark, Isaac Lewis, Dora Sherwood, Elizabeth Teall, Carroll Ayers, Mary Babcock, Ernest Brooks, Etta Homer, Hattie Hutson, Lottie Johnson, Clara Knudson, Lula Nelson, Russell Rath, Edwin Rich, Zel. S. Rice, Charles Roy, Will Rutledge, Meta Smith, Robert Rutledge, Ray Webster, Everett Williams and Rachel Williams.

Class of 1902—Cora Abrahams, Bess Blackburn, Herman Canfield, Mabel Heasty, Doris McAuliffe, Emma Moy, George Seidel, Cornelius Shea, Edward Strait, Robert Merrill, Francis Smith, Charles Potter, Ruth Dalaba, Ethel Link, Edith McCormick, Elizabeth Oliver, Floyd Rogers, Ray Smith, Margaret Young,

Charles Carnahan, Frank Newton, Horace Howell, Leon Moss and Rollie Quackenbush.

Class of 1903—Andrea Winterfield, Grace Shotts, Maude Nicol, Florence Jones, Clara Jankel, Clara Jackson, Mae Hitchcock, Maud Farnham, Effie Edminster, Julia Cholvin, Roy Shattuck, Sadie Slayton, Daniel Clark, Alice Brackett, Earl Brandt, Fannie Babcock, Lawrence Dake, Harvey Dorwin, Laura Davis, David Jones, Eva Moffatt, Guy Palmer, Jacob Putman, Grace Sharp and Catherine Johnson.

Class of 1904—Mae Rice, Lucretia Van Zandt, Lydian Bush, Harriet Ball, Margaret Dougherty, Mildred Evenson, Arthur Fish, Nellie Hitchcock, Myrtle Hoffman, Gertrude Johnson, Martha Jankel, Edward Leverich, Verne Lovell, Esther Moy, Lester Moss, Dorcas Prill, Sophie Roy, Tom Teall and Ethel Williams.

Class of 1905—Alvin J. Graf, Will H. Graf, Theresa Hanson, David Jones, Bess Heasty, Mary Hutson, Helen Jennings, Mabel Huschka, Nettie Jordan, Laura Kyle, Carl Kelley, Alice Thorbus, Fidelia Van Antwerp, Edwin Moy, Mabel Sherldon, Harry White, Elsie Tucker and Arthur Walters.

Class of 1906—Nellie Marie Ball, Sydney David Jones, Edna Caroline Dieke, Gwen M. Jones, Luella Anna Graf, Helen Pitkin Leete, Carl Glenn Gililand, Winfred Owsley, James Andrew Johnson, Ella Louise Schlaver, Grace Emma White, Loren Ernest Austin, Harold Edwin Blackman, Endora Deldee Burrows, Norman Lee Jewett, Gloria Alta Mengelt, Minnie May Evans, Neil Martin Molley, Ella Everson, Jason Nicol, Vena Rae Hemstock, Aimee Ethel O'Brien, Clarence Edwin Hitchcock, John Howard Prill, Otilde Josephine Jackson, Maria Della Sahrt, Catherine Magdalena Kuhn, Harry Ross Sheffer and Harold Kasson Thurston.

Class of 1907—Price McConnell, Evan Lewis, Percy Leverich, Nora Abrahamson, Hubert Blank, Mark Jones, Julia Harvey, Stella Kitchum, Rachel Nicol, Hazel Nicol, Mertie Jackson, Grace Shoemaker, Gorman Moffatt, Carl Jones, Harry Longwell, Winnie Rooker, Arthur Blank, Lottie Graf, Bennett Stiles, Sarah Jones, Nora Mulrennin, Benjamin Sias, Reuben Rogers, Jay Webb, Jessie Rutledge, Frank Van Antwerp, Miriam Lamborn, Mark Quackenbush, Anna Potter, David Simpson, Elizabeth Trux, Edgar Clough, Arthur Nichols, Ernest Dorwin, Tracy Huschka and Nina Hubbell.

Class of 1908—Mabel Davis, George Barker, Hazel Wolcott, Rose Seidel, Gretchen Esch, Harold Barker, Harriett Brackett, Mabel Parks, Grace Baldwin, Grace Van Antwerp, Minnie Poss,

Anton Boison, Marie Dowd, Francis Huston, Myrtle Butler, Eugene Matteson, Hazel Hubbard, Lillian Farnham, John Wolf, Inez Lloyd, Jessie Morrison, Eleanor Smith, Fred Newman, Kiesling Thayer, Pearl Tripp, Blanche Davis, Marie Winterfield, Irene Jordon, Arthur Hoffman, Sophy Abrahams, Pearl Richardson, Lillian Jensen, Arbie Brooks, Fred Heitman, Luella Walters and Frank Glynch.

Class of 1909—Jennie Webster, Andrew Johnson, Elinor Sherman, Earl Jones, Lettie Jackson, Chester Jackson, Forrest Richards, Anna Jones, Otis Westby, Blanche Wagner, Earle Jefferson, Maude Sharp, Celia Krotzman, Moses Smith, Mabel Matteson, James McDonald, Edith Pratt, Eugene Hesselberg, Gertrude Madden, Ethel Crowe, George Brooks, Grace Walters, Percival Hutson, Grace Simpson, Olga Larson, Delia Merrill, Margaret Heasty, Harold Dorwin, Bessie Hutson and James Merrill.

Class of 1910—Alta Wolcott, Harry Walters, Sylvia Richardson, Ethel McClure, Earl Jones, Ethel Doyle, Agnes McGarvey, Lila Blank, Jessie Swarzlow, Ida Jones, Delbert Dawley, Jessie Holinbeck, Edna Janes, Rachel Davis, Edith Clark, Alma Winterfield, Earl Leverich, Margaret Laing, Clara Barker, Elmer Abrahamson, Anna Axelson, Jennie Hitchcock, Chauncey Beebe, Jessie Powell, Lucy Smith, Helen Haddow, Joseph Dana, Elsa Baldwin, Pearle Kelley, Ralph Williams, Lillia Lund, Harriet Herman, Harry Hersh, Edith Heasty, Ella Shaw and Lulu Herrick.

Class of 1911—Floyd Rath, Grace Sarles, Leita Bestow, Stephen McDonald, Fern Smith, Lisle Mayfield, Jennie Jones, Roy Dunbar, Mae Morrison, Frank McDonald, Christina Winterfield, Ruth McCabe, Clyde Ewers, Zella Keene, Dorothy Oswald, Lawrence Carroll, Lila Bartlett, Emma Hansen, Charles McGonegal, Hazel Matteson, Amelia Wright, Burton Evans, Bernice Everson, William Kammalade, Esther Freeman, Merritt Newton, Myrtle Jones, Fred Enckhausen, Dorothy Hansen, Walter Evans, Maude Mayfield, David Williams, Harrietta Rathbun, Vaughn Lee and Edna Richards.

Class of 1912—Inga Christopherson, Don Divoll, Hulda Erickson, Doris Esch, Mae Finger, Rena Frank, Fred Hansen, Emil Hersh, Cecil Horswill, Ruby Jackson, Ethel Jones, Elsie Kielberg, Dorothy Kyle, Victoria Larson, Spencer Lucas, Mina Morgan, Serenus Paulson, Alice Prill, Grace Reed, Doris Richards, Esther Roberts, Blanche Rooker, Frances Sarles, Earl Thurston, Emma Walters and Grace Wright.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE BANKS OF SPARTA.

Within four years after the passage of the law which created the county of Monroe, the citizens of Sparta were furnished with banking facilities through the organization of the Bank of Sparta in 1858. From that time until the present the banking business has been conservatively and safely conducted with the exception of a private banking institution of M. A. Thayer and Company, which originally was established in the 70's by M. A. Thayer and R. S. Kingman, but which failed, together with the bank established by Mr. Thayer at Tomah in 1893.

The other banking institution have been distinguished for a steady and substantial growth. Two of them are housed in their own buildings and the third will undoubtedly acquire its home within the next few years.

The combined capital of the three institutions in Sparta is now $100,000. The total amount of of the surplus of the three institutions combined is $17,250, and the total amount of resources is $1,257,933.10.

The Bank of Sparta, which is the oldest bank in the state of Wisconsin west of Madison, was organized in 1858 by John T. Hemphill, who came from Milwaukee, Wis., and Samuel McCord, of Madison, Wis. It was inaugurated under the banking laws of 1852 and opened for business on the 26th day of July in that year, in the north half of the one-story frame building which is now No. 120 North Water street and occupied by the Grand Rapids Milling Company. The other half of the building at that time was occupied by the postoffice. Both Mr. Hemphill and Mr. McCord were experienced bankers, formerly having been connected with the Marshall & Ilsley Bank at Milwaukee, Wis., the latter being connected with the State Bank of Madison. In 1860 Mr. McCord sold his interest in the institution and moved to Milwaukee.

A statement of the bank at this time is interesting and the following is copied from the semi-annual report, dated July 2, 1860, on file with the register of deeds of Monroe county:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	$25,274 61
Overdrafts	46 60
Stocks on deposit with state treasurer	19,000 00
Bills of solvent banks	4,631 00
Bills of suspended banks	17 00
Due from banks and bankers	7,434 73
Specie	2,145 55
Total	$58,552.49

LIABILITIES.

Capital	$25,000 00
Registered notes in circulation	15,280 00
Deposits	15,925 40
Due others	2,347 09
Total	$58,552 49

The remarkable fact about this statement is what appears to be the small amount of cash entered in this statement as "specie" as only $2,145.55, but it will be observed that the bank at that time issued its notes for circulation, which amounted to over $15,000.

In the fall of 1860 the bank removed to the corner of Water and Main streets, into what was known as the "Goss building," now the site of the Masonic Temple, and while there plans were made for a more substantial home. In 1864 the bank erected the first brick business building in the village, designed by a Milwaukee architect, and a very fine building at the time. This was occupied by the institution until it was replaced in 1906-07 by the present bank building, except for temporary occupancy of a building opposite during the construction of the new bank.

When the national banking system was established throughout the country the Bank of Sparta reorganized in 1865 as the First National Bank and increased the number of its stockholders. The officers then chosen were: John T. Hemphill, president; T. B. Tyler, vice president, and Thomas W. Wilson, cashier. Later Mr. Wilson removed to Minneapolis and was succeeded by William Wright.

On May 8, 1873, E. H. Canfield entered the office as bookkeeper, was elected assistant cashier in 1877, and cashier in 1878, having faithfully served the bank continuously to the present

BANK OF SPARTA

time, except three years, during which he was out on account of ill health.

In 1878 the bank surrendered its national charter and reorganized as a state bank, resuming its original name of Bank of Sparta.

In 1879 Ira A. Hill became identified with the institution and was elected as a member of the board of directors. At the retirement of Mr. Hemphill in 1883, who removed to Indian territory, Mr. Tyler was elected president and Mr. Hill vice president. They held these offices until 1886, when Mr. Tyler's death occurred and Mr. Hill was elected president, in which capacity he continued until the time of his death in 1904.

In 1898 Messrs. D. D. Cheney and D. W. Cheney became interested in the institution, the former being elected vice president and the latter assistant cashier. D. D. Cheney retired as vice president in 1901, but continued as a member of the board of directors until his death in 1904. D. W. Cheney succeeded his father as vice president and at the death of Mr. Hill was elected president to succeed him, which office he holds at the present time.

Louis T. Hill entered the bank as a bookkeeper in 1893, and was elected assistant cashier in 1897 and vice president in 1904, which position he now holds. A. W. Barney, who had formerly been connected with the Monroe County Bank, became associated with the Bank of Sparta in 1901 and was made assistant cashier, and later the same year was promoted to vice president. A. W. Ryon entered the employ of the bank in 1908 and was in 1911 promoted to the position of assistant cashier. J. D. Button, formerly in the grocery business in the city of Sparta, was employed as assistant cashier in 1911; Pearl Kelley, assistant bookkeeper, and Charles Aylesworth, night watchman.

The management of this institution has during its fifty-four years of existence aided many men and many business enterprises in their growth from small beginnings to greater success and usefulness, and numbered among its present customers are the sons and grandsons of those who were valued customers of the bank in its earlier days. It moved into the present handsome banking building on May 17, 1907; truly one of the most artistic, commodious and substantial buildings of its character to be found anywhere. It occupies thirty-five feet front and is is eighty-five feet deep, is of classic design and massive in outlines; the front is of Indiana Bedford stone; the interior arrangement of the bank is according to the best modern ideas for an

institution devoted solely to country banking purposes, with every convenience for both the patrons of the bank, its officers and employees; there is a three-story vault built independently of the structure, the walls being heavier than standard and reinforced with steel rods and beams; ample customers' room and directors' room and all modern conveniences are found in connection; in front are the offices of William H. Blyton & Co. and D. W. Cheney. The wood work of the interior is mahogany and beautifully grained wood was selected, especially for this purpose. In the interior finish, beauty, without too much ornament, was sought, and the result is pleasing in every particular. At the last statement of the bank its total resources were $734,975.46, and carrying deposits of $672,845.46.

Monroe County Bank. This institution was opened for business October 26, 1894, with a capital of $25,000. The institution purchased the banking building on the corner of Water and Oak streets, which has formerly been occupied by M. A. Thayer; a very advantageous location for business purposes, and it has remained in this building, which it now owns, ever since. The interior of the banking room has been remodeled and modernized in every particular and now has a handsome equipment of the most up-to-date facilities for the handling of the large business which this institution enjoys. Its first officers were George D. Dunn, president; W. G. Williams, vice president and A. W. Barney cashier. Directors: George D. Dunn, A. Thorbus, W. G. Williams, C. M. Masters, L. D. Merrill and W. T. Sarles.

During its existence this bank has been conservative in its investments and has been of much service to many business enterprises which have been assisted through its help. It has built up a strong clientage and is considered one of the best conducted and managed banks of its kind.

The present officers are: President, George D. Dunn; vice-president, W. G. Williams; cashier, O. G. Lindemann; assistant cashier, David L. Jones; bookkeeper, F. B. Heitman.

At the last statement made by it the resources of the institution were $328,171.90, with deposits of $286,977.65.

Citizens State Bank. This bank was established on May 25, 1907, the officers being W. A. Jones, president; H. M. Newton, vice president; W. M. Gioler, cashier; T. C. Longwell, assistant cashier, and while yet young, the bank has rapidly increased its resources and has every indication to good success in the future. At the present time it occupies rented quarters in the I. O. O. F. building, on the corner of Oak and Water streets, which are

neatly fitted up for the purpose of the institution; its present officers are: President, W. A. Jones; vice-president, H. M. Newton; cashier, T. C. Longwell. Directors: J. C. Prill, C. M. Beebe, A. J. Carnahan and H. J. Masters.

At the last report the resources were $194,787.74, carrying deposits of $166,481.59.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

LODGES AND SOCIETIES OF SPARTA.

It is the intention in this chapter to give brief historical accounts of the lodges and societies which came in existence in the city; there have been a number of organizations in the past which have been disbanded and the records of which are not available, thus preventing any detailed account of their history at this time; among these orders was a lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, which was organized in 1876, and also a lodge of Good Templar, which has had rather a fitful existence at different times.

Early in 1880 there was organized in the city a civic organization called the "Board of Trade," having for its purpose the advancement of the interests of the village along manufacturing and mercantile lines and promoting in the general prosperity of the municipality; this organization continued for some time, but finally disbanded for lack of interest. No institution of the kind was in existence again until 1908, when the citizens' club was corporated and furnished rooms in the Schram building on Water street. The object of this organization was practically the same and for the time it accomplished considerable good in several ways, but, like the Board of Trade, interest in it waned, and it finally dissolved, sold its furniture and fittings, and in 1911 became a thing of the past. The business men of Sparta have now no organization of the character which looks after promoting the general welfare of the city and there seems to be no disposition among the business men to maintain such an organization.

Valley Lodge, No. 60, Free and Accepted Masons. A dispensation was granted by the grand lodge of Wisconsin on August 17, 1854, and Valley Lodge duly instituted. The first meeting was held in the house of R. S. Kingman, August 26, 1854, when Morrison McMillan was installed as worshipful master. The charter was granted June 15, 1855, Mr. McMillan being the first worshipful master under the charter; since which time there have been twenty-three worshipful masters and eighteen secretaries;

the former are: Morrison McMillan, A. D. Soper, A. H. Condit, A. H. Isham, M. E. Gage, S. N. Dickenson, S. S. Field, D. C. Hope, C. M. Masters, T. D. Merrill, P. S. Sparling, N. W. Bantley, L. M. Stevens, H. T. Child, C. W. Hines, J. C. Prill, E. A. Richardson, G. H. Chaffee, H. D. Baldwin, T. C. Longwell, H. J. Masters, W. B. Ford, E. R. Williams, and A. J. Frye. Secretaries: Chester McClure, R. W. Bowles, E. F. Clinton, M. Montgomery, J. M. Sugden, Fred Lee, H. E. Kelley, E. Aylesworth, A. Oppenheimer, E. C. Caskey, J. J. French, C. E. Boyden, J. M. Sugden, C. W. Pott, S. T. Lewis, R. A. Merrill, W. McBride and D. B. Laing.

In the year 1891 the Masonic fraternity purchased lots nine and ten, Tyler's addition, on the northwest corner of Water and Main streets, and a corporation was formed which erected a Masonic Temple; stock in this institution was held by members of the different Masonic bodies until 1910, when Valley Lodge, No. 60, having accumulated sufficient funds, took over the building and now owns it absolutely, practically free from indebtedness; the lodge rooms are handsomely fitted up and are used by the Masonic bodies, including the Commandery of Knights Templar and by the Order of the Eastern Star.

Valley Lodge has at the present time 126 members of good standing, and its officers are A. J. Frye, W. M.; F. A. Brandt, S. W.; F. L. French, J. W.; W. S. Telfer, S. D.; L. R. Moore, J. D.; L. D. Merrill, treasurer; D. B. Laing, secretary; J. H. Chaffee, chaplain; P. S. Sparling, tyler.

Sparta Chapter, No. 19, R. A. M. Dispensation was granted by the grand chapter of Wisconsin January 9, 1859, upon the petition of Morrison McMillan, Soloman Howe, A. H. Condit, W. S. Lane, A. R. McLean, Thomas Beitcher, Robert Langley, E. Sanford Blake, E. F. Clinton, J. W. Millour, Israel Graves, Chester McClure, E. S. McBride, J. D. Condit and R. C. McMann.

The first meeting under this dispensation was held in Jackson hall, on the evening of March 11, 1859, at which time Morrison McMillan was installed as high priest. On the 3rd day of February, 1860, the charter was granted by the grand chapter and the chapter was constituted and the officers installed on the 19th day of April following; A. H. Condit being the first high priest under the charter.

During the forty-three years of its existence the chapter has had twenty-three high priests; the institution is in a prosperous condition and numbers ninety-five members in good standing.

The present officers are G. H. Bunnell, high priest; W. M.

Forsman, king; G. H. Chaffee, scribe; D. B. Laing, secretary; A. W. Barney, treasurer; Thomas Teall, captain of the host; R. A. Richards, principal sojourner; W. McBride, royal arch captain; E. R. Williams, master of third veil; George Dreyer, master of second veil; A. H. Frye, master of the first veil, and P. S. Sparling, sentinel.

Sparta Commandery, No. 16, Knights Templar. The charter of this organization was granted by the grand commandery of the state of Wisconsin on the 6th day of September, 1882, and the following were the first officers installed: S. N. Dickenson, eminent commander; N. W. Huntley, generalissimo; J. D. Condit, captain general; the commandery has always occupied the lodge rooms in the Masonic Temple for its meetings, and there, in connection with these rooms, are a set of cedar lockers which house the uniforms and equipments of the order; the jurisdiction of the commandery includes the Royal Arch Chapters at Tomah, Black River Falls, New Lisbon, Necedah and Sparta, and at the present time the membership is 100 sir knights.

Its present officers are R. A. Richards, eminent commander; Louis T. Hill, generalissimo; George Dreyer, captain general; W. McBride, senior warden; William Forsman, junior warden; George H. Chaffee, prelate; F. E. Baldwin, recorder; A. W. Barney, treasurer; P. S. Sparling, standard bearer; John Kemp, sword bearer; E. R. Williams, warden, and J. T. Sargent, sentinel.

Sparta Chapter No. 18, Order of the Eastern Star. This order was instituted on the 5th day of May, 1891, with the following charter members: A. H. Isham, Miss Mary Isham, Mr. and Mrs. James Skillman, Mr. and Mrs. J. Schram, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Merrill, Mrs. D. B. Cheney and Mrs. William Meyer.

This is an order to which the wives, daughters, mothers, sisters and children of Masons are eligible, and is in part of a social nature. It has rendered much assistance in the past to the sick and needy members of the order. It first occupied a hall over the Monroe County bank, but now is installed in the Masonic Temple, and meets twice a month; it occasionally gives social parties, which are greatly enjoyed by the members and their friends.

The present officers are Emma Baldwin, worthy matron; Dr. J. C. Prill, patron; Genevieve Masters, associate matron; Jennie Horseman, conductress; Millie Enckhausen, secretary; Jennie

Brewster, associate conductress; Sarah Merrill, treasurer; Anna Salsbury, Adah; Bell Robie Lee, Ruth; Dorcas Chamberlain, Esther; Elizabeth Davis, Martha; Lorena Hay, Electa; Alice Baldwin, warder; J. T. Sargent, sentinel; Eva Williams, chaplain, and Lena Taylor, organist.

Sparta Lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F. The present charter of this organization was granted on the 21st day of January, 1899, with H. Palmer, R. Langley, L. D. Fisher, D. C. Fuller and S. P. Greenman as charter members. There was a lodge of this order organized in Sparta on or about the year 1858, but it disbanded and the records of it are not available. The present lodge numbers about 150 members, and is in a prosperous condition.

In the year 1887 it acquired the property known as the old Heller block on the corner of South Water and Oak streets, in which was added a business block on the west, so that this order is now the owner of a handsome property with paying business tenants below, and a fine suite of lodge rooms on the second floor, including a large and commodious dining room and kitchen; the property is valued at the present time at $10,000.

Its present officers are E. F. Babcock, N. G.; W. S. Jones, V. G.; D. L. Jones, secretary; W. O. Naset, P. S.; W. H. Blyton, treasurer.

Sparta Encampment No. 36, I. O. O. F. This is the uniform rank of the order of the Odd Fellows, and was instituted January 19, 1870. Its charter members were A. W. Kemp, S. P. Greenman, G. Simpson, S. B. Hamilton, J. H. Allen, J. N. Tarr and W. F. Cook.

This is an order of a military character, and is handsomely equipped with uniforms, each member carrying a sword; its membership consists of about forty at the present time, and its meetings are held at the hall of the I. O. O. F., and its present officers are F. J. Van Antwerp, chief patriarch; A. P. Anderson, senior warden; O. J. Jackson, scribe; F. J. Sheldon, junior warden, and J. B. Almer, high priest.

Mineral Springs Lodge of Rebeccas No. 41. This is an organization for women, connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the charter was granted for its institution by the grand lodge on December 3, 1874, and was organized with the following charter members: A. W. Kemp, G. S. Shaw, Samuel Hoyt, E. E. Olin, L. Green, D. H. Smith, H. A. Streeter, W. P. Meyer, Mrs. A. W. Kemp, Mrs. G. S. Shaw, Mrs. Samuel Hoyt, Mrs. E. E. Olin, Mrs. L. Green, Mrs. G. H. Smith, Mrs. H. A. Streeter and Mrs. W. P. Meyer.

This organization is noteworthy for its charitable deeds, and has been a great help to the members of the order, and they frequently give social entertainments at the commodious lodge rooms of the Odd Fellows, which are greatly enjoyed by the participants. It numbers 113 members, and its present officers are:

Mrs. Virginia Brewster, N. G.; Mrs. Inez Heasty, recording secretary; Mrs. Fayette Baldwin, treasurer; Mrs. Bell Millard, past N. G.; Mrs. Jennie Sheldon, L. S. N. G.; Mrs. Ole Jackson, L. S. vice G.; Mrs. Evan Lewis, conductor; David S. Jones, outside guard; Mrs. Emma Talbot, V. G.; Mrs. John Hoffman, financial secretary; Mrs. Maud West, chaplain; Mrs. Ada Goodman, R. S. N. G.; Mrs. Jennie Brandt, R. S. vice G.; Mrs. Alice Bors, warden; Mrs. David S. Jones, inside guard; Mrs. H. M. Smith, lodge deputy.

Knights of Pythias, was organized July 9, 1874, with the following charter members: M. R. Gage, A. W. Wilson, C. Blakeslee, W. H. Nott, J. M. Morrow, J. A. Harvey, C. B. McClure, D. C. Beebe, W. Goodale, J. B. Palmer and N. P. Lee. The lodge had a warrant granted to them under which they worked until July 1, 1875, when their charter was received from the grand lodge. They were authorized by the warrant to organize, constitute and establish a lodge of Knights of Pythias at Sparta, county of Monroe, state of Wisconsin, to be known at Sparta Lodge, No. 18, Knights of Pythias.

The first officers of the lodge were M. R. Gage, C. C.; D. C. Beebe, V. C.; W. H. Nott, P. C.; C. Blakeslee, P.; J. M. Morrow, M. A.; A. W. Wilson, K. R. S.; C. D. McClure, M. F.; J. Harvey, M. E.; N. P. Lee, I. G.; W. Goodale, O. G.

The lodge has occupied different halls during the time of its existence, and it is now very comfortably housed on the second floor of the Grossman building, where they have commodious quarters fitted up and club rooms.

The lodge at present numbers —— members, and its present officers are F. R. Salsbury, C. C.; E. A. Richardson, V. C.; A. F. Baldwin, prelate; F. DeBruin, M. of W.; W. S. Jones, K. R. S.; C. E. McMillan, M. of F.; A. J. Carnahan, M. of E.; S. C. Letson, M. of A., and C. E. Simpson, guard.

Sparta Camp, No. 560, M. W. A. This order was installed in the city of Sparta on the 18th day of April, 1888, with the following officers: M. A. Thayer, V. C.; W. H. Moseley, W. A.; C. M. Beebe, clerk; C. C. Herbst, banker; Beebe & Sarles, physicians; William Schaller, watchman; W. E. Coats, celate; J. A. Sholts,

manager; George McDowell, secretary; John Guy, escort. There were in all about twenty charter members.

The order has had a steady and prosperous growth and now has 438 members, among whom are thirty-nine social members, who do not participate in the insurance benefit of the order; the lodge occupies handsome quarters in what is known as the old Opera block, leasing the entire upper floor of this building, including the dance hall, which it rents for public entertainments at various times and from which considerable revenue is derived.

Its present officers are W. P. Bamber, consul; M. H. Babcock, advisor; C. E. Stevenson, banker; C. M. Van Antwerp, clerk; Ed. Arnold, escort; August Keifer, sentry; C. Merrow, watchman; Sarles, Beebe & Beebe and H. H. Williams, physicians; D. Hemstock, R. E. Nicol and C. H. Leach, managers; M. E. Putman, chief forester.

This lodge is a member of the LaCrosse Valley Association of Modern Woodman, which gives an annual picnic, and on June 5, 1912, the annual picnic was held in the city of Sparta, with an elaborate program and a large attendance.

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE SPARTA FREE LIBRARY.

What is now the "Sparta Free Library," was, at the time of its first organization and starting in the world, in the winter of 1861 and '62, termed the "Young Men's Library Association" of Sparta. It had its origin in the desire of a number of citizens, at that time, who possessed culture and literary tastes, to found a library which should be a credit to the place and which should not only be a public benefit in the direction of promoting a greater knowledge of books and the higher aesthetic culture which comes from the study of standard works by well-known writers, and valuable also as a means of reference, but which should be the basis for an association of kindred minds and tastes, for purposes of mutual intellectual improvement. The matter of organizing a library association had been discussed in public and private for some two or three years before it finally took shape and formed itself into a definite purpose. Among the citizens who took a prominent part in the beginning of the Young Men's Library Association, and to whom the credit of its inception and organization mainly belong, may be named Messrs. Romanzo Bunn, afterwards United States district judge for the western district of Wisconsin; Thomas B. Tyler, J. T. Hemphill, Judge George E. Pratt, D. McBride, Dr. M. R. Gage, Milton Montgomery, M. A. Thayer, E. S. Whitaker, H. R. Hayden, L. B. Noyes and a number of others. The exact date of the first meeting of the association cannot be stated with certainty, owing to the fact that the early records of the institution have been lost; and for the same reason but few details of the organization and progress of the association can be given, except such as can be gathered from the memories of the early projectors of the enterprise. It was organized as a stock association, and the members subscribing for shares at $5 each. With the fund thus raised, the light preliminary expenses were defrayed, and a small but judiciously selected assortment of books procured. Not an inconsiderable part of the infant library also were the donation of members and others who gave such volumes as they could spare

from their private collections, and thus a by no means insignificant beginning was made.

The officers elected at the start were a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and librarian. R. Bunn was chosen first president of the association, with E. S. Whitaker secretary and T. B. Tyler treasurer, and, subsequently, by Judge George Pratt, who filled the office for a considerable time. He was succeeded by Dr. R. S. Wells as librarian.

The new Young Men's Library Association, during the first year of its existence, experienced the usual vicissitudes of such institutions, the interest in it being active for a time, and then subsiding in to rather a state of quietude, broken at intervals by spasmodic revivals when a concert or dramatic entertainment was arranged for its benefit, or when an annual election of officers took place. The Civil War was then at its height and filled too large a share in men's minds to permit their giving much attention to matters literary and, moreover, the class really imbued with a love of books and reading was, as is generally the case in western towns, exceedingly limited part of the total population. It is not singular, therefore, that although expenses were kept up and frequent additions were made, on the whole the association rather languished after the first year of its organization. The library rules were defective in not requiring a deposit on the loan of the books, and as a consequence, large numbers of the volumes became scattered and lost. The labor of keeping track of them was not a paying task, and as may be imagined, could not be performed effectively under the circumstances. After a time, and during one of the occasional periods of activity, a change was made and new rules were adopted, one requiring a deposit from those borrowing books from the library, the deposit being refunded, less 10 cents, on the return of the book. This reform kept the library intact, but the question of the revenue was still a perplexing problem. The membership dues had been originally fixed at $2 per annum, but as the number of members diminished from neglect and non-payment of dues, this source afforded no surplus for incidental expenses and the procuring of new books. The Sparta Dramatic Club, a local dramatic organization, came to the rescue at several different occasions and gave entertainments for the benefit of the library, from which considerable amounts were realized and for which the members thereof, among whom were prominent Messrs. M. S. Powell, the brothers H. R. and Harrison Hayden, D. S. Whitaker, George Farbham, Mrs. George Whitcomb, Mrs. M. A. Harris, Mr.

and Mrs. L. B. Noyes and others, deserving full credit for the liberal aid they thus rendered in the institution.

Finally it became apparent that the library would have to be put on some different basis in order to give it permanence and provide for its growth and stability. The membership had dwindled from 100 down to thirteen in the winter of 1873-4. A meeting of the thirteen was held in the office of the librarian, Dr. Wells, and it was proposed to form a new organization under the state law, then recently passed, authorizing villages and cities to establish free public libraries. The first meeting was held May 8, 1874, at which the organization, under the state law, was effected. By this arrangement the library became a village institution, subject to municipal authority, and its affairs in charge of a board of trustees.

When the library had finally become a village institution, it was located in the upper room of a store building opposite the old Ida House, which is now the Hotel Lewis; when Dr. Wells left town the library was removed to the second floor of the Schram building on Water street, where it remained for a good many years, until the present library building was erected.

In 1900 there was considerable agitation with regard to the erection of a building for the library, and Dr. W. T. Sarles had taken some steps towards calling a meeting for the purpose of making some arrangements looking to that end, but in the meantime Dr. F. P. Stiles, having learned through reliable sources that money could be procured from Andrew Carnegie for a library building in this city if proper application was made, prepared such a letter, which resulted in Mr. Carnegie agreeing to give the sum of $10,000 for the construction of a library, upon the condition that a permanent provision should be made by the city of an amount each year equaling 10 per cent of the gift to maintain the same. This was very readily granted by the Common Council, and the library board, after considering several sites, purchased the old Globe Hotel property, at the corner of Main and Court streets, being a lot 150 north and south and 130 east and west; in 1901, plans for the building having been adopted, the library board appointed C. M. Masters, F. P. Stiles and George A. Richardson as a building committee. The work was commenced early in 1902 and finished during the month of April, 1903.

It was found when the building was nearly completed, that the sum given would not be sufficient to complete the building and to build sidewalks, grade and seed the ground, and an appli-

cation was made to Mr. Carnegie, who granted the sum of $2,000 more, upon the same condition that the provision amounting to 10 per cent of the gift should be provided.

The library building, a handsome brick and stone structure containing commodious and nicely furnished reading rooms with hot water heat and electric lights, is one of the most convenient and tasteful buildings of its character to be found anywhere. Considerable credit is to be given to the building committee for the thorough manner in which their work was carried out, and especially to George A. Richardson, who devoted a great deal of time in superintending the construction of the building and in the furnishing and fitting of it to its present condition; he has served for more than twenty years as president of the library board, all without any compensation whatever and purely for the satisfaction of seeing the library succeed; that it has been an institution of great value to the citizens of Sparta there can be no question, containing as it does at the present time 7,288 volumes, consisting of all classes of literature and comprising valuable reference works. At the present time there are about twenty-five periodicals, consisting of magazines and newspapers taken. The library is open daily under the charge of Miss Jennie Scouten, who has been librarian since 1894, and whose extensive knowledge of library work and her invariably courteous treatment to patrons of the institution has made her hosts of friends. At the present time Miss Lila Newberry is assistant librarian, and has been for three years. The present library board consists of George A. Richardson, Dr. F. P. Stiles, Dr. Carl Beebe, Mrs. C. C. Newton, Mrs. Paul Schaller and Mr. H. J. Masters.

CHAPTER XXX.

THE SPARTA FAIR ASSOCIATION.

The title of this chapter is used to designate in a general way the fair associations, which have existed for a great many years under different titles, on this side of the county.

The first organization of the character was called "The Monroe County Agricultural Society," and was organized at a very early date in the history of the county; in 1857 Robert E. Gillette, of Tomah, whose name is so closely connected with the history of that city, a zealous worker in all things which pertained to the welfare of the county, suggested the advisability of organizing an agricultural society and, after considerable agitation, it culminated in a meeting of representative citizens of the city who were favorable to the project.

Those who exhibited the greatest interest in promoting the organization were R. E. Gillette, Samuel Hoyt, T. B. Tyler, L. S. Fisher and Amos Kendall; after some discussion the society was formally organized early in 1858, under the laws of the state of Wisconsin then existing, which provided for the organization of state and county agricultural societies, and it adopted the name of "Monroe County Agricultural Society."

The first officers elected were Samuel Hoyt, president; L. S. Fisher, secretary, and Amos Kendall, treasurer.

The association held its first fair in Sparta in September, 1858, in what was then known as "Denny's Lot," situated on South Water street, where the O. I. Newton Son's Company electric light office and the adjacent lumber yard is situated; at least one man is living who attended this fair in the person of Fred A. Holden, assistant register of deeds.

Mr. Holden relates that the fair was quite a success, and that the exhibits consisted of cattle and agricultural products, and the sports consisted of foot races and a wrestling match, in which a Mr. Burlingame challenged all comers. He states that there were only three teams of horses at the fair, being the ones owned by Squire Andrews, who then was the landlord of the "Monroe House;" his father, A. D. Holden, owning a span and also one of

the Bard's. The rest of the inhabitants from the country came with ox teams and with the old-fashioned linch pin wagons, which were greased with tar. This seems peculiar at the present day, but it seems to be the fact that tar was used as a lubricator for wagons in those days. The receipts of the exhibits were rather light, but exceeded the disbursements, and the people who attended were unanimous in the claim that the gathering was a great success.

In 1863 the society became the purchaser of the present fair ground, situated west of the city, for which $725 was paid and a deed received from the owner on the third day of September in that year. The plat originally consisted of an entire forty acres, but this being too much for the purposes of the society, all but twenty-five acres were disposed of and are comprised in the present fair grounds.

The purposes of this society was to promote the annual gatherings at which the best products of the soil and the dairy were exhibited; improved machinery and implements for agricultural and dairy purposes were exhibited, and farmers, merchants, manufacturers and all classes of industries joined in making exhibits of their specialty, for which liberal premiums were offered in all lines.

Fairs, which were more or less successful, were held in the succeeding years, and by means of donations from citizens, it was kept going financially and, up to 1880, was in a flourishing condition; at that time a tornado, which passed through this section of the country, caused a severe loss to the society, as the buildings on the grounds were completely demolished, causing a great expense to rebuild and repair; by prudent management, however, the debt was paid and the society once more placed upon a good financial footing.

The society continued its existence until about 1892, when interest in it lagged and no fairs were held and, in May, 1894, it was succeeded by the "Sparta Driving and Agricultural Association," which was incorporated by W. T. Sarles, Fred Gross, M. R. Gage, W. P. Palmer, L. D. Merrill and F. L. French, whose names appear on the original articles of incorporation.

This society acquired the old fair grounds and improved the racetrack and held horse races at different times during the season of such sports, and revived the old fair and conducted the same for a great many years.

No fairs were held during 1909 and 1911, and the society, as then in existence, transferred its whole property in the winter of

1911-12 to the "Sparta Fair Association," surrendered all their stock, and the organization which now owns the property is composed principally of farmers; it has been thoroughly reorganized with W. H. Hanchett president and W. A. Holden secretary.

Active preparations are being made, and undoubtedly the year 1912 will see the resumption of holding an annual fair in the fall of the year. There are upon the grounds at the present commodious grand stands, a large exhibition building for farm products, mercantile exhibits and all those requiring indoor space, a large and commodious barn with box stalls for racing stock, ample cattle sheds and barns for the stock, together with pens for pigs and sheep and a large house where chickens and other domestic birds are exhibited; all together, the plant is very complete; a good half-mile track for racing, in the center is a baseball ground. There is an artesian well on the grounds which furnishes the best of water to the barns and stock sheds.

The new fair association starts with bright prospects, has a very large number of stockholders, as no person is allowed to own more than one share of stock, and whatever place it takes in the future history of the county, it certainly does not lack for good equipment, good membership and ample opportunity.

CHAPTER XXXI.

MANUFACTURES AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

Manufacturing was inaugurated in the little village of Sparta in 1853, when A. H. and Hilton Blake erected a sawmill upon the banks of Beaver creek; were it still standing it would now be located about in the center of Water street; this was the only sawmill here in this vicinity, except the one which is situated in Angelo, having been built there in 1852 by Seth Angel.

Messrs. Blake run this sawmill until about 1857, when the same was purchased by K. and O. P. McClure, who destroyed the old building and built the first grist mill in Sparta; this was situated about forty feet east of the old building. This grist mill was operated by McClure Brothers for several years to great advantage, the farmers bringing their grain to the mill from a great distance to be ground.

In June, 1867, the property was bought by T. B. Tyler and T. D. Steele for $27,000; they erected on the site of the grist mill a woolen mill, at an estimate cost of $30,000, and commenced the operation under the firm name of T. B. Tyler & Co.; they continued to operate the mill until 1872, when they sold it to H. Greeve. At that time the greater part of the original plat belonging to the mill property had been disposed of as building lots.

From that time, 1872 to 1878, the mill did not meet with a great deal of success, not running regularly, and in September of the latter year, T. B. Gibson bought the mill and commenced operation May 1, 1879, manufacturing woolen goods, making a specialty of fine white blankets, which became quite noted. In the spring of 1881 Mr. Gibson made several improvements in the work in order to fill the demand for his goods, and increased the machinery; he manufactured fine white blankets and Mackinaw cloth, the latter being a grade of goods used for out-clothing for lumber and woodsmen. The business ran at that time up to a capacity of $50,000 worth of goods per year and employed as high as twenty-five hands; it was operated as a woolen mill for several years, until it passed into other hands and the manu-

facture of goods was no longer continued; the building was used for various purposes at different times up until about 1909, when it was sold to W. A. Hemstock, and is now used as a livery stable.

As early as 1864 the village of Sparta boasted of a paper mill, which was erected in that year by John L. Mather, at a cost of $42,000. In 1871 it came into the possession of Oran I. Newton, who ran it until 1879, when he rebuilt the entire plant at a cost of over $50,000. The mill was situated on the LaCrosse river, when the water power, which is now used by the O. I. Newton Son's Electric Light Company, was first put in. The mill's capacity was over 6,000 pounds of paper daily, and employed as high as twenty hands, using in the manufacture of a certain kind of paper five tons of straw daily. In addition to the manufacture of wrapping paper and paper bags, Mr. Newton dealt very largely in other grades of paper, and built up a large trade throughout the Northwest, keeping several salesmen on the road constantly.

After his death the mill was operated by his sons, Harry M. and George Newton, until it burned some years later. With the destruction of the plant the business went out of existence, as the Newton boys did not rebuild it, but used the water power for operating the electric light plant, which they subsequently acquired, and the general powerhouse of which is situated on the site of the old paper mill at the present time.

Among other industries which have gone out of existence and which were prominent at one time, was the carriage works of Messrs. E. and A. Thorbus, which was established in the village of Sparta in the fall of 1866 by the senior partner of the firm. Mr. Thorbus commenced business in an old frame building and, during the first year, turned out seventy-five wagons of various kinds, the greater part of which were heavy vehicles, adapted for hauling and farm work. In 1870 A. Thorbus was admitted as a partner, bringing both business, capital and energy, and during this year the firm erected a warehouse at a cost of $3,000, which they occupied for many years. When the works were run to their full capacity, they employed twenty-five hands and kept in stock about 450 vehicles of various kinds.

As the years went by the manufacture of wagons was gradually discontinued and, finally, under the name of E. Thorbus & Son, the business was conducted principally as a headquarters for farm machinery up to the time of the death of E. Thorbus. It was afterwards continued by the estate under the management

of the son, C. T. Thorbus, until a few years ago, when he sold it to Davis & Jones.

There are three feed mills at present being operated in the city. One on Water street by G. H. Bunnell, he having acquired the Bacon mill dam and operates it at the present time; a prosperous business, manufacturing flour of different grades in a small way and being very useful for the farmers for feed grinding.

The old mill by the St. Paul depot is now owned by Bergman Bros., both of these properties have, in the past years, gone through so many different hands that the records of them cannot be gotten at the present time.

Both have had various ups and downs, and the trouble with the water power, especially the dam, has taken the course that is common with the dams constructed of wood and dirt. At present it appears to be operated successfully, being owned by Bergman Brothers, who have increased its clientage since they came in the business.

The old McCoy mill, situated on the lower end of Court street, is still operated with the water power which had been in existence for so many years. It is used as a feed mill and has built a large clientage among the farmers of the south and west.

Monroe County Telephone Company. This company was organized in a small way in the year 1897, with eighty-five phones and with V. V. Willey, E. V. Benjamin and H. C. Jackney as incorporators, who, in December, 1907 sold out their holdings to about thirty local men, who have since owned it. It has grown steadily and extends its lines in all directions in the county, and in the year 1904, it closed a contract with Bell Telephone Company by which it is also connected directly with long-distance lines, which is a great convenience to its patrons; it operates at the present time 552 miles of rural routes and city lines, with 950 telephones; has its central office in the Teasdale building, where a fine equipment is maintained with modern and most improved switch-boards, and in connection a rest room for the girl operators.

The plant is valued with all its connection lines at about $50,000, and owes its success principally to Senator Howard Teasdale, who has been the secretary and general manager of the organization since its start.

The present officers are C. M. Beebe, president; W. G. Williams, vice president; H. Teasdale, secretary and general manager, and W. McBride, treasurer.

Sparta Grain Separator Company. This company has the distinction of building a machine for the separating of wheat and oats and the cleaning of wheat and oats, which is the work of a Sparta man, Mr. George W. Richardson; Mr. Richardson worked a great many years upon his idea and finally succeeded in getting a patent on a machine which would accomplish the work, so longed desired by mill and elevator men, that is a machine which would clean wheat and other mixtures of grain, separating them, thus making the grade higher.

The company was organized in the year 1902, in the manufacture of this machine, and started in a small way in its present location and met with success and, finally, in the year 1909, the entire plant was sold to C. T. Thorbus, who is now the sole owner; he has perfected the machine in various ways and enlarged the plant at different times and the machines have been sold in various parts of the United States, and at the present time Mr. Thorbus has organized a stock company at Winnipeg, Canada, for the manufacture of Richardson Grain Separators, so that starting from a small beginning, this business promises to extend itself over a large territory. Several sizes of these machines are manufactured, from a small machine for mills, up to a large machine of big capacity for handling grain in elevators.

American Cigar Company. This is not an industry by local capital, but is one of the many plants of this great company which is operated in different parts of the United States for the sorting and grading of tobacco; the company located here in the year 1901, and erected several large brick buildings, near the Northwestern depot, upon the land donated to it by the city for this purpose; to this plant is brought a large stock of tobacco, bought in different parts of Wisconsin by the different agents of the company, and here it is sorted, graded and packed; the general manager and staff are employed the year around at the plant, and during the sorting season it has employed as high as 500 hands in the handling of tobacco.

There is also an equipment of machinery for curing tobacco, by which the leaf is started in one end of the machine and at the end of a few hours comes out the other side, cured and ready for use. This is a very complicated machine, and requires the attention of an expert to operate it and accomplish the results, which otherwise requires considerable time.

The present general manager is H. S. McGiffin, with a corps of assistants.

Jefferson Leaf Tobacco Company. This organization was incorporated by W. T. Jefferson and his son Harley, in connection with several others, in the year 1909. Mr. W. T. Jefferson had formerly been a manager of the plant of the American Cigar Company here and also state manager for that institution; he retired from its service in 1909 and organized the Jefferson Leaf Tobacco Company; his long experience in the business in Virginia and in Wisconsin fitted him to engage at once in this business, and the company leased commodious quarters, situated on Water street, where it congregates its stock of leaf tobacco, sorts and packs it. It employs about fifty hands.

The present officers of the corporation are W. T. Jefferson, president; D. W. Cheney, vice president; H. W. Jefferson, secretary and treasurer.

Sparta Iron Works. Originally established as an iron foundry, the present plant is the outgrowth of the oldest established industry in the city. In 1857 Captain Fisk erected the first foundry in response to a demand growing up in this section of the state for such a business; he afterwards sold an interest to Frank Skillman and Jeremiah Andreas; this firm ran the business until 1860, when Skillman acquired the entire business, buying out the other two, and conducted it until 1865, when he sold out to Lowrie, Mock & Stevens; this firm sold to H. Greve, and he in turn was bought out by J. J. Owsley, during whose ownership the plant was destroyed by fire.

In 1867 Lowrie, Irwin & Gilbert built another foundry near where the present works are located, and this was finally purchased by the Sparta Manufacturing Company, and again the plant was destroyed by fire. L. M. Newbury bought what was left and built another shop in 1869, sold a half interest to J. P. Ward, and in 1872 built what is the main building of the present works. Ward sold to Mr. Satterlee and the firm of Newbury & Satterlee carried on the business extensively, at times employing as many as sixteen hands.

The works passed into the hands of Carl Newbury and J. U. Durant, by whom it was formed into a corporation; the entire plant was taken over by Lee and Robert Canfield, who are the principal stockholders, and the business has been conducted under their management ever since. Gradually the foundry and casting business was dropped and the entire plant is now devoted principally to the manufacture of well drilling machinery, and in this business the Canfield brothers have made a success which is hardly realized by the citizens of Sparta; modest and unassum-

ing, they have developed surprising business ability, employ about forty hands, five of whom are traveling salesmen, and their machinery is sold all over the United States, in Canada, Porto Rico, Africa, India and the South American states and elsewhere.

CHAPTER XXXII.

CHURCHES OF SPARTA.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The Congregational church had its beginning with the coming of Rev. W. F. Avery, who arrived October 24, 1854; having finished his studies at Amherst College, Massachusetts, he started West and, upon his arrival, found everything crude and primitive, but he entered into the work with great earnestness; after three and a half years his health broke down from overwork. At first, there being no meetinghouse, services were conducted in private houses, the church being formally organized June 22, 1855, commenced the building of a church in the winter of 1856, which was formally dedicated June 11, 1857; it was erected at a cost of $3,800 complete. The first deacons of the church were Joseph Avery, the father of the pastor; Guy C. Hoyt, and H. M. Sandford. Deacon Avery was untiring in his efforts in behalf of his church, and it was through his efforts that the church building was erected. The first board of officers was elected March 8, 1856, consisting of six trustees, being George W. Root, G. C. Hoyt, E. S. Blake, E. Lathrop, Joseph Avery and A. F. Childs.

In 1858 Rev. Avery resigned, and from that period to 1867 the pulpit was occupied by five different clergymen; the Rev. Joseph Carmichael became the pastor in 1866 and served for nine years, being followed by Rev. Geo. F. Hunting for two years, and he in turn succeeded by Rev. Frank T. Lee, who entered the pastorate January 23, 1879. During his time the church made rapid progress.

The Rev. William Crawford followed him, commencing the work April 8, 1883, and continued as pastor for about eighteen years, and it was during his long pastorate that the church reached its climax of success; Dr. Crawford, a most earnest Christian, of great executive ability, a profound scholar upon whom his college, Amherst, has conferred the degree of D.D., was closely allied with the best interests of Sparta, and the memory of the great work accomplished by him will long linger in the minds of the people of Sparta. It was during his pastor-

ate, and largely due to his efforts, that the present beautiful church was erected at a cost of about $20,000 and dedicated June 23, 1879.

This church is far beyond the church building ordinarily found in a city of this size; it is built upon grand architectural lines, handsome in appearance, fitted inside with a large pipe organ and modern church furnishings, a large, roomy auditorium, the acoustic properties of which are excellent, church parlors which can be opened into the main auditorium and a well-appointed basement dining room and kitchen, in which church suppers are frequently held.

Rev. E. W. Huelster was called to the pastorate from the East, succeeding Dr. Crawford, in January, 1901; upon his retirement, after considerable discussion, the Rev. F. W. Walker Pugh, pastor of the First Baptist Church of the city, was engaged as pastor, and the two church organizations formed an alliance; the Baptist church being so small in numbers that to maintain a clergyman was almost out of the question; the coalition was effected; the two church societies joined in supporting the church work of the Congregational church, although each organization still retains its officers and each conducts its annual church meeting as before. The arrangement seems to be a very happy one, as the congregation, thus augmented, supports the church very well.

Rev. Harding Hogan succeeded Dr. Pugh, having been the pastor for about two years last past; Rev. Hogan is a fortunate addition to the local clergy, a man of broad mind, a deep student, gifted far beyond the ordinary with eloquence, his sermons, habitually delivered without the aid of a manuscript, are models of logic, thought and diction. There are the usual societies connected with the church which maintain the ordinary church activities and do much charity work, and the church is fortunate in having a large choir of mixed voices, ably conducted by Dr. S. D. Beebe.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Sparta was visited for the first time by a Catholic priest in 1858, in the person of the Rev. Father Roche, who celebrated mass in a railroad shanty. At that time there were but few Catholic families in the village, but with the advent of Father Montague, who succeeded Father Roche in 1860, began the growth of the congregation until in the year 1867 a frame church was built, under the direction of Father Marco; Father

Montague was succeeded by Father Stroker about 1864, and he in turn by Father Gallagher about 1865, and Father Marco.

This building was located somewhere near the present Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company depot, and the first members of the congregation were H. Fanning, Thomas and Pat Brennan, H. Schroff, D. Sullivan, P. Fitzgerald, C. Bedenk, H. C. Muller, T. McGargle, H. Carr, W. Lennon, M. Bransfield, Thomas and Bernard Mulrenin, Ed Barry, William, Thomas, Ed and John Bowler, Pat Davis, Con. Carroll, Jacob Poss, J. Antweiler, John Wagner and Alec Allen, five of whom, Pat and Thomas Brennan, William and Thomas Bowler and Thomas Mulrenin, are still living.

The Rev. Father Quigley succeeded Father Marco as the pastor in 1867, and he in turn was succeeded by the Rev. Father Dorward of Tomah, who on the 14th day of August, 1876, was succeeded in turn by Rev. J. B. Metzler, who held the pastorate until August, 1877, when the Rev. Joseph Bauer relieved him; he officiated until 1877, when Rev. J. Wicker took charge, until 1879, when Rev. J. B. Wiedman succeeded him. The church first erected in 1867, near the depot, was moved to the present location in 1877; the membership at that time consisted of about fifty families.

Rev. Father T. H. Beau succeeded Father Wiedman in the pastorate, and after a short pastorate of a few months by Rev. J. Kennedy, he in turn was succeeded by Rev. Father H. F. Flock, who marks the twenty-fifth year of his pastorate in 1912. During the latter's pastorate the old church was enlarged and remodeled at an expense of about $2,000. Until about 1897 two mission churches were attached to the Sparta church, one at Summit of about fifty families, and one at Pine Hill, near Shamrock, of about twenty families. Since 1897 the Sparta congregation has service every Sunday; the aforesaid church at Summit now having a resident pastor, and the church at Pine Hill being attended from Black River Falls.

On Sunday morning, January 22, 1905, the church was totally destroyed by fire, which started in the basement and, it being an old wooden building, it soon went up into flames. The congregation, luckily, had $2,300 of insurance on this building, so that it was not a total loss.

Steps were immediately taken for the erection of a new church, and on Sunday, September 24, 1905, the cornerstone of the new edifice was laid with impressive ceremonies by Bishop Schwebach, of LaCrosse, and on June 5, two years later, the

bishop again visited the church and presided at the dedicatory ceremonies, which were very elaborate. The church owns the entire block upon which its buildings are situated, with the exception of four lots which are owned by the Franciscan Sisters and upon which stands the St. Mary's Domestic Science school building.

The congregation has a membership of something over 100 families, who are steady supporters of the church, besides about fifty who are occasional contributors. Though not large, the congregation has made a splendid showing the last few years in erecting a new parsonage at a cost of $4,000; buying new property to the value of $6,000, and building the new church at a cost of $30,000 with a residue debt of only $15,000 at the present time and that is being paid at a rapid rate.

ST. MARY'S DOMESTIC SCIENCE SCHOOL.

This is not financially connected with St. Patrick's congregation, but is a separate institution conducted by the Franciscan Sisters of LaCrosse, Wis. Originally the building which was considerably smaller than now, was used as a school and afterwards it was changed to a girls' orphanage, for which purpose it was used until 1889, when the orphans were taken to LaCrosse, and it then became a boarding school until about the year 1905.

The sisters then determined to undertake the opening of a domestic science school in connection with the St. Mary's Convent, and it became a success from the start; it then was necessary to enlarge the buildings to accommodate the increasing attendance. The building was thoroughly remodeled and enlarged and school formally opened on Monday, January 6, 1908. It is equipped with a large and commodious kitchen, a spacious dining room, sewing room, class room, bright, airy dormitories, a well-equipped laundry, several music rooms, all well lighted, steam heat and ventilation and provided with all modern improvements, arranged with a view to the practical convenience and comfort of the pupils.

This is a school for girls, and its principal purpose is to teach domestic science and all its branches, which includes for the first year, cooking and serving of meals, table etiquette, study in composition and nutrient value of various foods, housekeeping and home management, laundering in all its branches, plain sewing, mending and darning, the making of simple garments, common and fancy needlework. The second year of the course includes also home-nursing, care of the sick and the sick room,

making, cutting and fitting of garments and art needlework. Music is also taught, the music department being well provided with rooms and instruments. Orchestra concerts and musical programs are provided for the entertainment of the pupils and their friends; there is also a course of drawing and painting, which is optional for those who desire to take it. In connection with the other instructions in the school, religious instruction is given, and the training and discipline which will cultivate in its pupils the Christian virtues and special traits of womanly character that should be prominent in good Christian homes.

The following is a list of the graduates of the school: 1910—Veronica Elner, New Ulm, Minn. 1911—Emily Shornar, La Crosse, Wis.; Gertrude Beecher, Eau Claire, Wis.; Pauline Hildebrand, Sheboygan, Wis.; Catherine Schmitt, St. Lucas, Ia. 1912—Clara Belter, Athens, Wis.; Anna Beil, Athens, Wis.; Mary Greiner, Athens, Wis.; Clemence Canar, Mondovi, Wis.; Florence Schlosser, Eau Claire, Wis.; Anna Marick, Eau Claire, Wis.; Sophia Duren, Cazenovia, Wis.; Clara Muehlenkamp, Norwalk, Wis.; Elizabeth Rick, Plain, Wis.; Mary E. Hughes, Greenwood, Wis.

The total attendance for the year 1911-12 was forty-five pupils.

THE ORDER OF THE SACRED HEART.

This city is fortunate in being selected as one of the three points in the United States where is established a home for the members of this order.

In August, 1911, the property known as the Judge Romanzo Bunn residence, on South Court street, was purchased, which includes about thirteen acres of land, and became a mission house of this order, and on September 27th it was dedicated by the Rev. James Schwebach, bishop of LaCrosse, with impressive ceremonies. This order was originally founded in France, by Very Rev. Jules Chevalier, December 8, 1854, but in consequence of the French anti-clericalism, the society was moved from France, where it had a magnificent basilica, dedicated to our Lady of the Sacred Heart, which annually attracted thousands of pilgrims and established its headquarters in Holland, from which it rapidly spread over many countries. The mother home is now located in Rome.

The chief activities of the order are the missions of the South Sea and Philippine Islands; the society is especially strong in New Guinea, where it has a complete organization, headed by an

archbishop with 140 priests and 100 lay brethren; in the Philippine Islands there are twenty-five priests and twenty lay brethren. Although the missions are dangerous and difficult, they are declared to be the most prosperous of any throughout the world, and the order has at this time a total membership of 600 priests and 200 lay brothers. At the mission home in this city there are at the present time an average of about seven priests who are here for rest from their arduous labors.

The home is well located geographically, and it is expected in the future that it will grow in usefulness and be the home of many of these missionaries during the times in which they are permitted to retire from active service and recruit their health and strength.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

In the early settlement of the country it seems that the Methodist denomination was first on the ground in Sparta in the person of Rev. Frederick Walrath, who preached the first sermon in 1851 to a congregation of five persons, services being held in the cabin of Mr. Petit.

Rev. Walrath continued to hold services from that time until 1854, the membership numbering about twenty-five persons; in that year the first regularly appointed pastor took charge, the Rev. Mr. Mayne. Although regularly assigned to this church, the organization did not, in fact, take place until 1856; at that time Rev. Reuben R. Wood, presiding elder of the LaCrosse district, Wisconsin conference, appointed Frederick Walrath, W. J. Tucker, Albert H. Blake, Benjamin Stevens and J. W. Harding as trustees of the church at Sparta, to hold in trust all church property; the organization being completed according to the laws of the state by the presiding elder acknowledging the execution of the certificate before E. S. Blake, notary public, at Sparta, on the 16th day of February, 1856, the document being filed in the office of the county clerk on the same date.

In 1856 a neat church was erected at a cost of about $2,500, and about that time a bell was presented to the church by the members of the community, the sum of $450 having been raised by subscription for that purpose, and became a great addition to the building. The church was, of course, regularly supplied under the system used in the Methodist conference, with pastors, during the first years, and for a great many years the five-year rule being in force; a record of all of the pastors is not available, but among them have been men of high intellectual attainments,

among them might be mentioned the Rev. Seamann, Rev. Trimm, who became presiding elder of this district a few years ago; Rev. Wright, who afterwards was sent to Europe in the missionary work; Rev. Bauchop, who believed in practical patriotism, joined the Sparta military company and received a commission as lieutenant, serving for a time faithfully and well.

Rev. L. A. Brenner perhaps accomplished the greatest amount of improvement in church property, for during his incumbency for a few years ending in 1911, the church was greatly improved and enlarged, and through his efforts money was raised and a magnificent pipe organ purchased and installed; the building entirely fitted with beautiful stained glass windows.

In the past years the church has had able managers among its trustees, and has acquired the title to most of the block upon which the church building is situated; has erected a fine parsonage for the pastor's use, which is one of the finest appointed residences in the city.

During the fall of 1911 the conference of the LaCrosse district was held at this church; at this meeting Rev. L. A. Brenner was appointed district superintendent, a fitting reward for good and faithful service. The church has a large membership, is in a good condition financially, and wields a considerable influence in the community; has many societies connected with it, especially among the young people, and strong Sunday school and Epworth League; the pastor at the present writing being Rev. Straw.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Was organized September 9, 1854, with sixteen members, its first pastor being the Rev. James Squier; after an existence of some months the church disbanded and was reorganized on the 29th of June, 1856, with twenty-two constituent members, who adopted the New Hampshire confession of faith, and during the first year, under the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Card, the membership increased by the addition of fifty-one persons; in 1858 the first church building was erected on Benton street; subsequently this was disposed of and, under the pastorate of Rev. S. S. Walker, a church building was erected on the corner of Oak and Court streets, the present site; in 1895 the congregation having grown to substantial proportions, erected the beautiful church which occupies the site which was formally dedicated February 7th, 1897. The church, during the succeeding years, had varied success, but gradually, through removals from the city, the mem-

bership dwindled to a point which, as has been said, resulted in the coalition with the Congregational society during the pastorate of the Rev. F. W. Walker Pugh; at the publication of this history the arrangement still continues, a striking illustration that letting down the bars in denominational religion results and can result in greater good.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first services of this church were held at what was known at "Union Block," just south of Assembly hall, by Rev. Fayette Durlin, missionary stationed at LaCrosse; he visited Sparta occasionally thereafter for some time. Bishop Kemper made the first Episcopal visitation in 1859, at which time Mrs. J. W. Walrath, Mrs. J. D. Condit and Mrs. J. W. Smith received the rite of confirmation. In 1860 the first Sunday school was organized by a few ladies at the home of Mrs. O. D. Randall, which held its first sessions at Liberty hall. In 1861 the lot was purchased where the little church now stands, and in 1863 a plain church was erected through the efforts of the few members and the donations from all classes of citizens. In April, 1863, St. John's Church was formally organized with the Rev. W. P. Ten Broeck as pastor. Many clergymen have been assigned to this little church, which has had a varied existence, at times no services being held, at others occasional service and at times having a missionary priest regularly in charge.

Of late years the most determined effort to inaugurate a revival of the church membership and work was undertaken, with the coming of Rev. A. J. R. Goldsmith from England, sent here by Bishop Nicholson; he arrived in July, 1906, and remained about two years, during which time he was ordained by Bishop Webb; he resigned and went to Arapahoe, Neb. In September, 1909, Rev. Robert T. McCutchen assumed charge, holding regular services up to the time when he received an appointment from the general board of missions in New York City as missionary to the Philippine Islands, with residence at Sagada, for which duty he and his wife left Sparta early in 1911. The church has since been closed, except for occasional services which have been supplied by Rev. Link from Mauston.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

TOMAH, MENOMONEE CHIEF.

It having been established beyond the question that the city of Tomah was named from Thomas Carron, or "Tomah," which is the French pronunciation for Thomas, a biography of this remarkable man merits a place in this work. There seems to have been a great deal of uncertainty in the past among the people of Tomah who have been interested in investigating its early days and the reason for the name, and it has frequently been written that he was a Winnebago chief, but through the efforts of the Wisconsin State Historical Society the principal facts in his life have been gathered and are here presented.

Tomah was the most noted of the sons of the old Carron, a celebrated Menomonee chief, and was born in 1752 in the old King's village, opposite Green Bay. He was a man of magnificent appearance, being six feet tall, with dark eyes and handsome features, and was very prepossessing, with a lordly bearing. He looked every inch a king and one writer, Grignon, says that he was the finest looking chief that he had ever seen. He was firm, prudent, peaceable and conciliatory, and was sincerely loved alike by the white and red men of his time. In his early manhood he became the acting chief of the Menomonee tribe, although he had no hereditary title to the chieftainship. This was held at the time by a man about as old as himself, who was an idiot. Tomah merely ruled as the acknowledged strongest man of his nation, and this he continued to do for a great many years. The Indian tribes around him are represented as being afraid of him, which is mentioned as a singular fact, that he never engaged in war with any of them while in control of the nation, but seemed to inspire awe by his great ability.

The home of this tribe was in the vicinity of Green Bay, but the Indians at different times roamed this entire country, and no doubt at some time the chief Tomah occupied for a brief space some portion of the site of the present city of Tomah as his camping grounds and made the acquaintance of some settler or settlers in that region, who were so impressed with his bearing and

friendliness that his name was proposed for the little early settlement, and ever since the village, and afterwards the city, has borne his name. An account written by James W. Biddle, of Pittsburgh, Pa., of a visit to the Indian tribes at Green Bay and vicinity along in 1816 and 1817, gives many interesting events in the history of this great chief. Mr. Biddle relates that on his visit he learned that in 1810 or 1811 Tecumseh was forming his great combination for driving the Americans back, who, like the waves of the sea, were encroaching upon their hunting grounds. With this view he visited Green Bay, obtained a council and hearing from Tomah and his people, whom he addressed in a manner he best knew how to do, and in the course of which, in true Indian spirit, he pictured the glory, as well as certainty of success, and as omens of this recapitulated to them his own hitherto prosperous career—the number of battles he had fought, the victories he had won, the enemies he had slain, and the scalps he had taken from the heads of the warrior-foes. Tomah appeared sensible of this influence, for he was opposed to leading his people into war. His reply was in a tone to allay this feeling, and he closed with the remark to them that they had heard the words of Tecumseh—heard of the battles he had fought, the enemies he had slain, and the scalps he had taken. He then paused, and while the deepest silence reigned throughout the audience he slowly raised his hands, and his eyes fixed on them, and in a lower but not less prouder tone, continued, "But it is my boast that these hands are unstained with human blood!" The effect is described as tremendous—nature obeyed her own impulse; an admiration was forced even from those who could not, or did not, approve of the moral to be implied, and the gravity of the council was disturbed for an instant by a murmur of approbation, a tribute of genius, overpowering at the moment the force of education and of habit. He concluded with remarking that he had ever supported the policy of peace, as his nation was small and consequently weak; that he was fully aware of the injustice of the Americans in their encroachments upon the lands of the Indians, and for them feared its consequences, but that he saw no relief for it in going to war, and therefore, as a national thing, he would not do so, but that if any of his young men were desirous of leaving their hunting grounds and following Tecumseh they had his permission to do so. His prudent councils prevailed.

The further report of Mr. Biddle, given in his own language, is as follows: "I always thought this an odd speech, a very

remarkable one to come from a savage, for such Tomah was by birth and education, but by nature I always thought him one of the grandest specimens of humanity I had ever seen. I had not met with him at Green Bay; I was only a few days here in 1816 and hurried with business, nor did I hear much, if anything, of him, until after meeting him the next year at Mackinaw. The first I heard of him was a prescription of his to Col. John Bowyer, the Indian agent at Green Bay, for the gout, of which my brother, Edward Biddle, told me, and a very rational one I thought it, 'to drink no whiskey, live on lean meat and wild rice and scarify his feet.' This led me to make inquiries about him when I found that my brother had become a warm friend of his—an admirer of him.

"When at Mackinaw early one morning in the latter part of May or early in June, 1817, I had come out of my lodgings and observed approaching me one of the many Indians then on the island, and taking a look at him as he emerged from the fog, then very heavy, I was struck as he passed in a most unusual manner by his singularly imposing presence. I had never seen, I thought, so magnificent a man. He was of large size, perhaps full six feet, with fine proportions, a little stoop-shouldered, and dressed in a somewhat dirty Indian blanket, and had scarcely noticed me as he passed. I remember it as distinctly as if it was yesterday. I watched him until he disappeared again in the fog and remember almost giving expression to a feeling which seemed irresistibly to creep over me, that the earth was too mean for such a man to walk on! The idea, to be sure, was discarded the moment it came up, but existence it had at this, my first view, of Tomah. I had no knowledge at the time who he was or that Tomah was on the island, but while standing there before my door and under the influence of the feeling I have described, Henry Graverat, the Indian interpreter, came up and I inquired of him whether he knew an Indian who had just passed by? He replied yes, that it was Tomah, chief of the Menomonee Indians, who, with his people, had arrived late the evening before and were encamped at the 'Point;' that Tomah had just been with him to ask a council with the Indian agent, Maj. Wm. H. Puthuff. The council was held at 10 o'clock and I made it my business to attend.

"To understand what follows, I must make a short digression. The British for many years had paid annual contributions, termed by them Indian annuities, giving each member of the tribe a suit of clothes, consisting of a shirt, leggins, breech-clout and blanket

—and each family a copper kettle, knives, axes, guns, ammunition, etc. For these each tribe came regularly in the spring or fall, either to Mackinaw or Drummond's island or the Sault Ste. Marie. Tomah was a British Indian. He had not himself engaged in the war, but his feelings were with the British, as were personally some of his young men. He had arrived on Mackinaw island with his whole people on their way to Drummond's island to receive their usual annuity, and stopped at Mackinaw to rest over night. There was nothing novel to us in this as a number of tribes had previously arrived, stopped and had a council, at which they told their story, always winding up with professions of love for their 'Chemuckiman Nosah,' or American father, who, they hoped, would open his heart and give their people some meat to stay them on their journey, and his breasts to give them some milk—i. e., whiskey—to make them joyful. This was the usual winding up of all such councils. When the council in this instance had met and the proper time offered, Tomah arose and stated to Major Puthuff that he had arrived with the Menomonee nation the night before on their way to visit their British father, and that having stopped on the island to rest over the night he had thought it his duty to report the fact to his American father. With this simple announcement he sat down. Puthuff, a little nettled, made a short reply and the council broke up.

"Coming out of the council house I waited for Major Puthuff and remarked to him that Tomah would want some provisions for his people, and that I wished he would give me an order for that purpose. 'D—n the rascal, why didn't he ask for it, then?' 'I suppose,' said I, 'being a British Indian, he is too proud.' 'Well, let him starve then.' 'If all are to starve who are proud, God help many that I know of, major.' I had no difficulty in prevailing in the matter as the government had made provision for such issues to Indians, and Graverat and I made out an estimate proper under the circumstances to give, and Tomah and his people continued their voyage.

"In a few days he and they returned, dejected and disconsolate. A change had come over the spirit of British policy. They had just come out of a long and exhausting dance, led them by Napoleon, and were counting the cost. They had been casting around to find where surest and readiest to cut off drains upon their treasury and judging that they had no further need of Indian services, lopped off the whole list of Indian annuities. This was already known to Mackinaw and had been told to Tomah upon his arrival, but he would not, or did not, believe it. He found

it, however, too true. There were no annuities there for him or for any of the other tribes, many of whom were there, and it was anticipated at one time that they would rise against the British force there and take what they could get. But this was not attempted.

"My brother Edward, then and now at Mackinaw, had been well acquainted with Tomah at Green Bay, and immediately after his return to the island he came into the store, spoke a few words to my brother and left. I had seen the interview and watched the result without making any inquiry, for I saw that my brother, who greatly loved Tomah, was imbued with all his melancholy. In a few moments a young Indian came into the store with a three-gallon keg, which my brother bade the young man in the store to fill with whiskey, which was charged on the books to Tomah. I was looking over the books but a few years ago and saw the entry on the ledger, which brought with it a train of wild and melancholy thoughts. This insult from the British authorities, as he took it, was more than his proud heart could bear. For himself he might have borne up against it, but for his people, and in the sight of those whose good offices he had refused to ask, he could or would not. The keg was brought to him in his tent, from which he drank alone, and to an excess that relieved him on the third day of pride, grief, joy and care. He was buried on the island. I was present at his funeral and witnessed his daughter, a young girl of nineteen or twenty, as she mournfully sang his death song at the head of the coffin just before lowering into the grave all that was mortal of Tomah. I never saw so distressed and broken-hearted a people. They said they were no longer a nation, no longer anything. Tomah could alone command and keep them together, but now they would be scattered and lost. We made a collection and bought them provisions which carried them home, where they organized under some other chief, until driven from their old hunting-grounds by you land-grasping Wisconsiners!"

Tomah died and was buried at Mackinaw, July 8, 1818, at the age of sixty-six years. On his grave Mr. John Law, of Green Bay, erected a monument with the following inscription:

"Here rests the body of Thomas Carron, grand chief of the Folle Avoine (Menominee) nation, who departed this life July 8, 1818, aged sixty-six years, regretted by all who knew him."

Thus lived and died this great man, for great he was in his day, a heroic figure of commanding ability, gifted with that nobility of character and breadth of mind which makes men

great, whether civilized or savage; and his great influence among his people and the surrounding tribes did much in keeping the friendly relations with the early settlers, whom he invariably protected. He was fully as great as Phillip, of Pokanoket, or Pontiac, or Tecumseh, not as well known perhaps, but exhibiting traits of character which called for great admiration, and the city which bears his name may well be proud of it.—Ed.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

CITY OF TOMAH.

Woven around the adoption of the name of this beautiful city are a number of interesting facts. How and why it was given this name appears a little later in the chapter. "Tomah" is truly an euphonious word, pleasing to hear, giving the idea of gentleness and yet sturdy strength. The village and the city bears the name of that celebrated Menomonee chief whose life and character show him to have been a mighty man among his people and in his time. So the city, his namesake, has become a familiar word throughout the state and stands for sturdy municipal strength and progress.

Contrary to the general belief as to who was the first settler upon the site of the city, credit usually being given to Robert E. Gillett, stands forth the fact that Jesse Boorman was the first actual settler and the first man to acquire title to any portion of the land upon which the city is now situated.

When in 1854 Mr. Boorman, who was then living in Walworth county, was informed by an itinerant preacher that the region to the west, near the Mississippi river, was the "Promised Land," the first idea of the new settlement began to take form. In that year Mr. Boorman drove through from Walworth county to LaCrosse and entered three forties of land, which are now a portion of the site of the city. He came back and located the land and proceeded to clear a portion of it, going back to Walworth county in the winter and returning in the spring to further improve the land.

To digress from the story at this point it seems fitting to give a short sketch of Mr. Boorman's life. He was born July 4, 1830, in Kent county, England. When about six months of age he came with his parents to this country, embarking at Liverpool in a sailing vessel and landing in New York on New Year's day, 1831, the voyage having occupied six weeks.

The family soon located in Chautauqua county, New York, where they lived for three years, moving from there to Green county, in sight of the Catskill mountains, where they resided for

three years more. Mr. Boorman's father then decided to "go west," left that location and went to Schenectady by way of Buffalo, coming to Wisconsin by the lake route, passing through Chicago and then on to Walworth county by teams, arriving there early in June, 1837, when Wisconsin was still a territory. John Boorman, Jesse's father, entered 320 acres of land in Walworth county; his son, Jesse, remained at home and assisted in working the farm until 1854, when he located the 120 acres of land which will be described hereafter, securing a patent signed by James Buchanan, then President.

In 1855 he, with his brother-in-law, came to Madison by rail and then walked from there to the present site of Tomah and established a farm home, where he lived for many years until 1903 when, owing to his advanced age, he retired from active farm life and has since resided in the city of Tomah. He was married to Miss Lucilica Constance Ryland, November 4, 1858.

In 1855 Robert E. Gillett, accompanied by Robert Howie, arrived upon the scene. Mr. Gillett purchased some land which lay south and east of the present location of the city, and went to Walworth county during the winter of 1856-57 and offered to trade land with Mr. Boorman. Mr. Boorman requested him to wait until spring, when he would be on the premises again. Accordingly in the spring of 1857 Boorman came back. At that time he had no idea that this location might be a good trading point with the advent of the railroad which it was rumored would be constructed through from Milwaukee, and the land he owned not being the best for agricultural puposes, on April 24th he traded with Mr. Gillett. On that day he gave Gillett a deed of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter, and the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section four, township seventeen, range one west, which deed was recorded in the office of the register of deeds in volume four of deeds, on page 285, on April 24, 1857. For this land Mr. Boorman received an equal amount and sixty acres "to boot," which comprised a portion of the old Boorman farm, upon which, with additional purchases, he remained as stated until 1903.

Mr. Gillett had four forties in section nine, joining section four on the south, and the impulse which led to the selection of this point for a village is an interesting story. Robert A. Gillett, the son of Robert E., when a young man of twenty years was employed with the surveying party which staked out the route of the Milwaukee and LaCrosse Railroad from Milwaukee to the

Mississippi river. His father, Robert E., instructed him to find out from the engineer in charge of the work at what point the line of railroad was most likely to be built to the north, and in the course of events it was found that Council House creek was the most likely and logical point for such an extension. Word was sent back to Milwaukee and a movement was immediately started to buy the property necessary for a town site. This was done at what would be considered a trifling cost in these days. The United States government and the state of Wisconsin held title to the land and settlers were able to secure it at very reasonable prices. The land grants were secured by Robert E. Gillett and a tract covering a mile in length and a half-mile in width was secured south of and abutting upon the projected railroad, which the founder often stated, and firmly believed, would some day be a railroad center. His untimely death prevented him from seeing his dream realized even to a small degree.

In 1855 Griswold Gillett, the father of Robert E., took up 160 acres of land adjoining the southeast corner of the original village, on a land warrant for service rendered the United States government in the war of 1812. This became the homestead of the family, and on this farm the third house in the village was built. After the trade which had been made between Robert E. Gillett and Jesse Boorman, plans were at once made for laying out the town site. When the plot of ground was selected it was necessary to find a name for the proposed village, and it appears that the son, Robert A. Gillett, after the perusal of an old history of the state in which a record was found telling that an old and highly esteemed Indian chief, contemporaneous with and friendly to Chief Oshkosh, had at one time gathered his tribe for conference in the council house located on the headwaters of what is now known as Council creek, he chose the name "Tomah," which was accordingly adopted. In connection with this chapter it is eminently fitting that here be given a short account of the founder of the city and his son, remarkable men, both of them, in many ways.

Robert E. Gillett was born in Mesopotamia, O., on the 23rd day of June, 1809. He was one of the three sons of Griswold Gillett and Elvina Tracy, both of whom were pioneer settlers of the western reserve of Ohio. Born in the first decade of the nineteenth century, Robert E. Gillett combined the spirit of the pioneer with an appreciation of the value of education, and was one of the first to become identified with the educational movement of which Oberlin college, Ohio, was the center, and became

the first financial secretary of the society or group of earnest men and women who laid the foundation of this wonderful school. He was a man of sterling character and strong convictions, and his love of justice prompted him to take up the cause of abolition, and he was known throughout the South as a "black abolitionist." His home in Oberlin later became a station in the famous "underground railroad," and the shop over his kitchen was used for sheltering negro slaves on their way to Canada and freedom. At one time he was chosen by a Southern judge as guardian of five mulatto children. Family records do not show the date of this period in his career, but there were three Miner children and two LaMar children, the latter being a branch of the family of which Senator LaMar of late fame belonged. These children were taken to Oberlin and their estates administered in a just and satisfactory manner, and all five in due time graduated from Oberlin college. His activity in the cause of abolition was carried on until the election of President Lincoln, of whom he was a staunch supporter. Just before his death his services were recognized by President Lincoln, who commissioned him Minister to Venezuela, but death came before he could assume the responsibility of this mission. In the early days of the settlement of Monroe county he was one of the few judicial officers in the community, holding for a short time the office of justice of the peace.

He was married September 8, 1833, to Marie Ann Bussell. Two children, Robert Arthur and Mary A., were the fruits of this marriage. In 1837 his wife died and a year later his marriage to Lucy Kellogg took place. The children by this marriage were Ruth K., Theodore W., Julia King and Frederick F. About a year after the death of his second wife he married Lois Ann Ingraham, October 27, 1849, a widow with two children, a son and a daughter. The son died at an early age. The daughter, Lucy, lived a short time in Tomah, died in early womanhood, mourned by a large circle of friends. Robert E. Gillett died at Tomah, September 28, 1861.

No history of Tomah would be complete without reference, at least, to "Grandma Gillett," or "Aunt Lois," as she was known to the family, but universally known and called in the last years of her life "Grandma Gillett" by the people of Tomah. She possessed the true pioneer spirit and it was to her qualities of mind and heart that the social life of the new settlement owed much. Her interests were with everybody, her charity knew no limit except that of the means to do with, and her religion was

of a type which is so rare and sweet that it has left its imprint on all who knew her. She survived her husband many years and was known and loved by the children of Tomah for three generations.

Robert Arthur Gillett, son of the founder, was born in Elyria, O., July 6, 1834. As a mere boy he traveled on horseback and on foot as far as the Indiana line, going two or three times to Boston with his father, who was engaged in the business of drover. He lived in Ohio until about seventeen years of age, when he took his worldly goods, consisting of a team of horses, a wagon and a cow, boarded a steamboat at Cleveland and went west, arriving in Milwauke in due course of time, where he engaged in teaming. During the early period of the settlement of Tomah he owned and operated a sawmill at LaCrosse, and after the panic of 1857 wiped out his resources and his health demanded a change of climate, he again "went west," this time to the gold fields of Colorado, with a wagon train of emigrants composed of Wisconsin people, many of whom never returned to this state. He was located at Pike's Peak and vicinity for about eighteen months, returning home at the beginning of the civil war, being called back to his father's death bed.

As has been stated previously, after reaching Milwaukee and being employed by Kellogg & Strong in teaming, he joined the surveying party which blazed the trail of the Milwaukee & LaCrosse Railroad. As the road building progressed he followed the railroad business and was the first station agent at Iron Ridge, at Horicon and at Tomah for a short time, where the family were located, living in the log house on his grandfather's farm. After the death of his father he became the administrator of the estate, and although his grandfather, Griswold Gillett, was still living, he became the virtual head of the family. In 1862 he married Sarah Caroline Turner and took up his residence at Tomah, acting as recruiting agent for the army.

In the spring of 1864 he enlisted in the Forty-third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and was commissioned captain of Company K of that regiment. His discharge came with the close of the war. His family consisted of five children, Charles, Matie, Theodore W., who died in 1872; Minnie, who died in 1902, and Sarah Lettie, who died in infancy in 1872. During the few years following the war he endeavored to unravel the tangled affairs at Tomah, but in 1866 he was obliged to abandon the task as too big for his limited capital. He was elected chief clerk of the Wisconsin assembly in 1866, and after the close of the session of

the legislature that year he reëngaged in the transportation business and was contracting agent for the Western Transportation Company for nearly thirty years. During this time he also filled many of the clerical positions at Madison during the winter months and was always active in state politics.

In 1872 his wife died and a year later he married Serepta A. Atkinson, of LaCrosse. He was actively engaged in business in Milwaukee up to 1905, when he again went west, this time to Los Angeles, Cal., but returned the same year. His second wife died in December, 1905, at Fox Lake, Wis. His last years were spent with his daughter, Matie Warren, at Fox Lake, at whose home he passed away December 28, 1907, after a most active and useful life.

Resuming our narrative: After completing the trade Mr. Gillett employed William Spear, a civil engineer, of LaCrosse, who made the original plat of the village settlement on the south half of section four and a part of the north half of section nine, the plat being completed June 4, 1857, and the future city began to be a reality.

The manner in which this original plat was laid out reflected the tendencies and character of Mr. Gillett in a most gratifying manner, Superior avenue being made 100 feet wide and all other avenues running north and south seventy feet wide, and all cross streets sixty feet wide. His generosity was further evidenced by the fact that for a time after the plat was completed he offered to give free lots to any who would build buildings upon them. In the southeast corner of the village he set aside a ten-acre tract, known as the Gillett reserve. Here was to be the home of the founder of the village. This tract, however, was destined never to fulfill its original purpose, and in 1869, or early in 1870, was divided and sold to Watson Earle and Judge George Graham. Directly north of this plat a piece of ground was set aside for a female seminary, a beautiful place, well wooded and sloping eastward to Council creek. This project was never carried out owing to the death of Mr. Gillett in 1861. His monument, however, is the attractive Gillett park which, through the enterprise of later generations, has been made into a delightful spot.

S. D. Hollister, who came to the village soon after the arrival of Mr. Gillett, owned the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section four, and in August, 1858, platted what is known as "Hollister's first addition" to Tomah. The survey was made by C. C. Miller, a civil engineer, lately settled in the village, and this plat was added to and became a part of the village

proper. This was followed the same year by "Railroad addition," platted by Robert E. Gillett and McLean Stoughton, on August 7, 1858, being also surveyed by C. C. Miller. Then came "Hollister's second addition," which was platted August 19, 1859, so that in the space of two years the little settlement began to take form and shape as a municipality. Buildings sprang up like mushrooms, people came in rapidly from the east to swell the population, and in 1858 Tomah was incorporated into a village having facilities for transportation by the opening of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, became an important trading point.

The first building of which there is any record built in the village proper was the cabin built by Cady Hollister and occupied by him and his wife and son, Solomon Hollister, which was erected on the hill where the high school building now stands. The cabin built by Robert E. Gillett in 1856, on what is now known as the Benjamin farm, was the second building erected and is still standing, being preserved as one of the few landmarks still remaining to remind us of pioneer days. This cabin, according to Robert Howie, was originally started by two hunters whose names are unknown, but was afterwards enlarged and finished by Mr. Gillett.

Robert Howie at the writing of this work is still living at the ripe old age of eighty-two years, and deserves more than passing mention in this book. Meeting Robert E. Gillett on his way to the future village they became acquainted, and Mr. Howie came with him and worked for him a great many years. Mr. Howie was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, August 6, 1830. When about twenty-six years of age he left his native country and landed in New York on the Fourth of July, 1856, and came directly to Wisconsin. Mr. Howie engaged for several years in farm and mill work, and among his early employments was that of carrying mail between Tomah and Sparta. This he did on foot through the wilderness, following the Indian trails, and it is related that he made the trip from Tomah to Sparta and back in one day, sometimes carrying as much as $2,000 in orders and cash in his mail sack. This trip he made twice a week.

After leaving the employment of Mr. Gillett he assisted C. C. Miller in surveying for several months, and then engaged in teaming from Sparta to Tomah and LaCrosse, hauling many of the early families and their goods to Tomah, and was well known throughout all that region. About 1858 Mr. Howie began to farm the land which he had purchased from Gillett and others, con-

sisting of 100 acres in and around Tomah. He first erected barns for stock and then built his frame residence, which still stands upon the original site, having been enlarged and improved. In 1871 he was married to Agnes Alexander, a native of Scotland, and to them was born five children. During the course of his life he has had many hardships to undergo. One time his jaws were broken by the kick of a horse; at another time he was run over by a wagon load of hay. In the winter of 1857, when the snow covered this territory to a depth of five feet on the level, he, in company with Mr. Gillett, befriended the Indians in many ways and won their love and friendship.

As early as 1854 W. W. Jackson and Webster Kenyon, with several others, settled in the town of Adrian, at a point which they afterwards called Jacksonville. Two years afterwards Gillett built a sawmill in the northern part of the village of Tomah, which was run for him by Jackson and Kenyon.

When the surveyors were coming through the route of the Milwaukee and LaCrosse Railway a keen rivalry existed between the village of Tomah and Jacksonville as to the route of the original line. Much pressure was brought to bear upon the surveying party, but Mr. Gillett in his engaging and logical way finally induced the surveyors to make the line where it now stands, instead of swinging farther to the south and going through Jacksonville; in the meantime a plat had been made of Jacksonville and its inhabitants had full faith that the railroad would go through their community and there would be established a future city; they were doomed to disappointment, however, and Jacksonville dwindled to a mere settlement and later became only a farming community, and thus the dream of a municipality faded away, the victim of circumstances.

To attempt to follow out the arrival of the earlier settlers is a task for which no record now serves, to name them all in the first few years of pioneer days is now an impossible task; many familiar names, however, are remembered and are here given as well as can be done at this time; James Garnock and family came with Robert Howie in 1855, Mr. Garnock soon after opening a blacksmith shop and building a residence on what is still the old Garnock homestead; William Plunkett came from Walworth county the same year; William McLauren also came with Mr. Howie and James Garnock and settled in the town near the village.

The year 1856 saw the coming of S. Jennings, C. W. Kellogg,

Joseph D. Cady, who afterwards bought a lot on Superior Avenue and built a house, Alden Cremer, Amasa Meloy, Harvey Bush, who built the third house or cabin in the vicinity, being situated somewhere near the present cemetery, C. C. Miller, the civil engineer, who built a log cabin about where Watson Earle's house now stands and afterwards secured the property on the ridge in later days known as the "Beers" place. In 1856 or 1857 Dr. Walker and Dr. Goyer arrived, which was first on the ground is not known, but they came at about the same time and commenced the practice of medicine a few years later. Dr. Rouse Bennett located here and went into the army as a surgeon soon after the commencement of the civil war. The Bradley boys, Josiah, Charles and Henry, came in 1857.

In 1858 James Rockwood and his four sons, Theodore, Delorama, Edgar and James N. moved into the village from Limerick where they had located about two years before, there being at that time a saw mill operated there by Jackson and Kenyon. Mr. Rockwood secured the piece of property where the old Grant house stood and proceeded at once to erect a barn on the back end of it. When the barn was finished he moved and started to keeping boarders. He at once, however, began the construction of a hotel building on the corner and at its completion called it the "Rockwood House," which he ran until 1867 when he sold the property to a man named Smith from Leon or LaFayette; it being right after the war he changed the name to the "Grant House," in honor of General Grant, and conducted a hotel for a number of years, when the property was sold to Mike Gondrezick.

John Dodge came in 1858 and built a shop having over it a public hall on the site where the old Dr. Vincent residence stands; afterwards this building was moved down to the St. Paul depot and enlarged, being converted into a hotel, which was known for many years as the "Dodge House."

In every history there must necessarily be the "First Events" which are so often alluded to and concerning which at times there is much discussion; the year 1856 saw the birth of the first white child in the little settlement, being a daughter who came to brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amasa Meloy, March 6; she was named Hattie and grew up to womanhood in the village; the first male child was Frank, the son of C. C. Miller, born in June of the same year. He now resides at Pasadena, Cal., where he runs a large hotel.

The cause of education received a feeble start at this time, school being held in a corncrib for a brief period; afterwards conducted in a building built for the purpose.

The year 1857 was indeed a red letter year for the village, for with it came many new families, including Asher Haynes, Reuben Schaffer and many others; C. W. Kellogg, who was a Methodist clergyman, commenced religious services that year, holding church on the first Sunday in July in a new barn erected by Robert E. Gillett, which Gillett said he wanted to have "dedicated"; the first business building which was put up was a small store building erected by Elder Kellogg on the corner now occupied by the Ziegler store; Kellogg put in a small stock of groceries and drugs. Soon after that Asher Haynes built a store and dwelling combined a little further south in the same block and entered into the mercantile business. The premises were afterwards occupied for a number of years by Dr. J. H. Moseley; part of the building is still standing, though the place has been frequently remodeled during these modern times.

A school house was built on the site where the home of Harvey M. Sowle now stands and school regularly commenced with an attendance of eight pupils under the direction of Emma Bush, daughter of Harvey Bush as teacher. The old school house stood on that place for a great many years, one of the landmarks, afterwards used for dwelling purposes until torn down by Mr. Sowle. Elder Kellogg also built the first frame house in the village in that year upon the knoll on a lot given to him by Mr. Gillett. This house is still standing, although greatly changed in appearance upon what the later generations called "Kellogg's Hill," and the editor has many pleasant recollections of coasting down this hill on bright moonlight winter nights.

On November 13, 1856, a resolution was passed by the County Board of Monroe County detaching from the town of Adrian all of township seventeen range one west and constituting it a new town to be known as the town of Tomah. There was at this time only a temporary government in the so called village and this was the beginning of municipal government in the town and of course the village which was then a part of it. This resolution provided that the first election should be held in the house of James Randall on the first Tuesday in April, 1857, for the election of town officers; it seems, however, that when the time came for the election it was not held at Mr. Randall's, but in the home of John Sexton, who, much to the disgust of the town officers,

charged $3.00 for the use of his house; at that election John J. Stacy was chosen chairman, Benjamin Mead and C. A. Adams supervisors, Harvey Bush town clerk, Alden Cremer treasurer.

The following year 1858 the village was incorporated, but the charter, however, was not granted by the legislature until several years later; 1858 saw the completion of the railroad from Milwaukee to LaCrosse, with exception of a small strip at Tunnel City; the rails being laid from the east to the tunnel and starting on the west side of it, going to LaCrosse; the tunnel was not completed until about seven months later and during this interval the company was compelled to run a stage over the tunnel hill to transfer passengers from one side to the other; the opening of this line to traffic caused a large increase in the population of the village.

The population now demanding it a petition was gotten out and forwarded to the postmaster general asking for the establishment of a post office and this was granted early in 1859 and the office established amidst the rejoicing of the inhabitants; it seems that in those days people did not quarrel about who should be appointed postmaster, Cady Hollister was appointed to that office which was rated fourth class, at which rating it continued until 1867 when it was made a money order office, and the records show that the first money order was purchased by a Mrs. Charles W. King for the sum of $50.00; by 1860 manufacturing interests began to come and different lines of business to open up, until the time of the breaking out of the civil war when the little village did more than its share in sending to the front a large number of its best citizens.

While there was no company recruited and organized at Tomah Dr. Foote, who had located there some years before, raised quite a number of men and took them to New Lisbon where they enlisted in Company H Tenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry of which company Dr. Foote was a lieutenant. A great many enlisted at Sparta, some at LaCrosse, some went to other parts of the state to enlist, so that the record of those who went from the village of Tomah into the great struggle is impossible to compile at this time.

The implements of industry were in great part laid aside for those of war and while business was carried on in all lines in a desultory way, all watched the course of that great struggle, which appeared at times to have no end; a reign of sadness existed most of the time, from which it slowly recovered at the

close of the war. With the declaration of peace and the return of the soldier boys who survived, an era of prosperity began and a number of stores and dwellings were erected in this and the succeeding years and the people branched out in all kinds of business.

During the war period there were some new arrivals, notably Harry Howard, who came in 1860 and bought a farm next to Robert Howie; Lewis S. Barnes, in 1861, who immediately went into business, became one of the substantial citizens and merchants for nearly a half century; Watson Earle came in 1863 and built the little feed store which existed for so many years on the site of the fine block now owned by him on Superior avenue, at first he kept a meat market and then went into the feed business and later putting in groceries. A. D. Benjamin also came in that year in March, and his brother L. S. Benjamin in June of 1863; Edwin Eaton arrived in 1865 and went into business; A. W. Gibbs, who had originally settled at Ridgeville, moved to Tomah in 1864 and put up a livery stable, purchased considerable property and later platted Gibbs Addition; Sam Gunn also came in 1864 and went at first into the lumber business; in 1866 Dr. J. F. Richards moved up from Milwaukee and entered into the practice of medicine; L. S. Griggs moved in from LaCrosse that year; James Tormey also arrived and at once entered into business, some time later being joined by William Prettyman, and the firm of Tormey & Prettyman was a household word for years; we neglected to mention the advent of Col. J. P. Tracy who came in 1861 and erected a store building down at the lower end of Superior avenue, which was at first used as a sort of a hotel. Thomas McCaul moved here in 1867 and laid the foundation for the large real estate holdings he now enjoys.

In 1866 the legislature granted a charter to the village and in 1867 the first village officers were elected; they were as follows: President, D. C. Proctor; police justice, D. R. Meloy; village trustees, William Runkel, L. S. Barnes, John Dodge, H. L. Crandall, A. W. Gibbs and Mr. Shepherd; village clerk, W. H. Wright; treasurer, J. H. Charreton; street commissioner, Levi Benjamin. It appears that the new administration started in with a wave of reform right away by passing an ordinance imposing a fine of $40.00 upon a person caught playing cards in a saloon, thus the cause of good government started at once.

In 1867 all of the above officials were engaged in business and several other well known names call themselves to mind, J. J. Kibbe, who kept a feed store; David Johns, who conducted

a wagon factory and blacksmith shop; J. A. Wells, who established the Tomah Journal; George Runkel, who afterwards engaged in milling and established the first bank.

In 1871 and 1872 Tomah in common with all new western towns felt the shock of the Jay Cooke failure and business received a setback from which it was many long years in recovering; in 1871, however, the building of the Wisconsin Valley Railroad from Tomah to Grand Rapids in Wood county did much to revive business and marks the beginning of a rapid growth in population; many families moved in, as they knew that Tomah would be the division point of the new road and the increase in population of the village was nearly five hundred.

One thing in which all Tomahites are interested is the old reliable "Sherman House"; at the close of the war Joseph McGinnis' father had a little building on the old Sherman House corner which was about 16x24 in which he had a shoe shop in front and lived in the back end; it is impossible to supply exact dates, but along about the last year of the war Mr. Schultz, father of Adolph Schultz, bought the property of McGinnis and erected a large frame building upon it and commenced keeping boarders; he sold the property to H. G. Boyington after he had improved it by building what was called the north wing; in this wing upstairs was the only public hall and stage in town for a number of years; Boyington ran the hotel as the "Boyington House" for a great many years and when the Opera House Block was built by Thomas McCaul, Mr. Boyington turned the public hall into sleeping rooms. Along in the early eighties the property was sold by Mr. Boyington to R. F. Parshall who built on what is known as the east wing and rented the place to Frank Sherman, of Mauston, who conducted the hotel up to the time of his death for a long term of years as the "Sherman House" and finally purchased it; under his management and that of his excellent wife and daughter, Mrs. Altenberg, the hostlery became famous for its excellent home-like cooking, cleanliness and home appearance and became a favorite resort for traveling men, a reputation which has been sustained to this day under Charles Hamilton, the present owner, who clerked for many years for Mr. Sherman. In 1907 the Sherman House property was sold to the Tomah Cash Mercantile Company and the buildings were purchased by Charles Hamilton who moved them to the present location on the southeast corner of the same block and later added another story, putting in steam heat and improving the entire property so that it is today a modern little hotel in every particular.

In 1876 the old Grant House, then owned by M. Gondrezick, was destroyed by fire. The building had been raised up by Mr. Gondrezick, a basement with a barroom and offices put under it and the building greatly improved. It was destroyed with its contents December 17th of that year.

But to go back to the chronological narrative. The period from 1872 to 1890 did not hold many noteworthy events, perhaps the most important of which was the mustering into the Wisconsin National Guard of Company K on May 28, 1884. Numerous business blocks and residences were built during the time, and in 1883 the city was incorporated by the granting of a charter by the legislature, which was known as chapter 134 of the laws of 1883, and the city of Tomah was a reality.

Eighteen hundred ninety-three marked the Thayer bank failure at Tomah and Sparta, which affected the financial interests of so many people of the county and wrought great hardship upon many, and adding to this the fact that it was panic year business in all lines suffered in consequence.

Eighteen hundred ninety-four was quite a lively year in politics, especially on the Republican side, for it was the time of the memorable convention in this senatorial district to nominate a candidate for state senate, the district comprising Jackson, Monroe and Vernon counties. It was in this celebrated contest that C. A. Goodyear, D. F. Jones and J. J. Gillivray were candidates, a deadlock causing several adjournments to different places.

In September of that year, after considerable agitation, a special election was held upon the question of the issuing of $15,000 bonds for a water works system. The election resulted in a majority of 303 for the proposition, and the following year the first water works system was installed.

On September 23, 1894, occurred the first disastrous fire in the city's history. It started about 9:20 in the evening, breaking out in the second story of the Joe Disper building, in block 25, in the business district on Superior avenue. A high wind blowing at the time soon spread the flames to adjoining buildings and the entire block of business buildings was consumed. A. W. Rice's small frame building, used as a barber shop and dwelling, was partially wrecked in an attempt to check the flames. The fire department consisted of a chemical engine, which was totally inadequate to handle such a fire. The block on the opposite side of the street was threatened but by the heroic efforts of the firemen and citizens it was saved.

Stocks of goods were moved out into the streets and thieving began more or less, and in order to aid the police force in guarding all of this property that night, the men of Company K volunteered for that service and stood guard until morning, when arrangements were made by the several owners to care for their goods. Following is a list of the losses, and it will be noted how small the value of buildings is compared with the present time: Gondrezick building, $2,000; Grutsch building, $2,000; stock, $350; Disper building, $1,000; Johnson & Simpson, hardware, building and stock, $2,800; G. Reel, building and stock, $4,000; Aller & Button, $1,600; Blome building and stock, $1,800; Barnes building and stock, $4,000; Rice building and stock, $1,300; Root stock, $200; Johnson & Bongers, stock, $2,000. Building operations were at once begun and the year 1895 saw the block rebuilt with substantial brick business blocks and in better shape than ever.

From this time until 1898 business resumed its normal condition; prosperity reigned, business in all lines was good. In that year the war cloud began to take form early. Trouble with Spain had been brewing for some time. The blowing up of the Maine in Havana harbor was the needed touch to fire the American spirit, and war was formally declared by congress. This meant troops and at once. After all the years that Company K had been in existence, after all the criticism that it, in common with other companies of the Wisconsin National Guard, had received from some classes of citizens who, perhaps, might have been thoughtless in their statements, after all the years of being "tin soldiers" in the minds of some, the opportunity came at last for active service in the field, and how was it met by this little company of home boys? It was necessary as the law then stood, the national guard being state troops, that the men volunteer individually for service in this war. Early in April the company was assembled for this purpose and the proud fact was recorded that sixty-seven out of the entire sixty-eight officers and men volunteered to go to the front.

On April 27, at 4 o'clock a. m., Captain Warren received telegraphic orders to proceed to Milwaukee, where the regiment would be mobilized together with the other two Wisconsin regiments. That morning the special train bearing the other companies on this line took Company K, equipped, eager and ready for the business in hand. That they met the issue, every officer and man, and came back with a record to stand for all time to their credit, is told in another chapter.

The community was shocked on June 20th at the shooting of William Wetzel by A. F. Lynch. This affair resulted in two long and expensive trials, which resulted finally in Lynch being declared insane and sent to Madison.

In June, Lieut. Frank L. French, of Company L, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was sent back to enlist recruits for the Second battalion, Companies B, K, L and M, and from the 17th of June for a few days enlisted enough men to fill up Company K to war strength, they being promptly sent on to Chickamauga park, where the regiment was then in camp.

In August the first note of sadness came from the war with the death of Private Paul Curtius, of Company K, of typhoid fever, at Charleston, S. C. His body was returned home and the funeral held on August 15th, which was largely attended.

Time dragged slowly on. News came from the boys; now they were at Charleston, then embarking to go to Cuba. Orders changed, they were on their way to Porto Rico, where they arrived in July. After that the news from the front came only occasionally. Many anxious hearts at home waited, for they did not know what. The campaign was soon over as far as hostilities were concerned, but danger, greater than ever, of fever in that tropical climate, still remained and wrought havoc in the ranks. At last, however, the latter part of October came the joyful news that the "boys are coming home." Great preparations were at once undertaken, committees appointed, and a fitting celebration of their return arranged for. On the morning of October 31st the special train bearing the Second battalion steamed in the station at Tomah amidst the cheers of thousands assembled to greet the boys. They filed out of their coach, each to be greeted by his loved ones; then swung into line for their last march of the campaign, to their armory. But they were no longer boys. Hardship and suffering had left their mark on every one. The boys of a few months before were men now with lines on their faces, but—they were "home." After an informal lunch at the armory they dispersed to their families and friends.

On Thanksgiving day, in November, a great banquet was tendered to the company, an elaborate program was carried out. The company, in common with the other companies of the regiment, were placed on furlough for sixty days, and finally mustered out of the service of the United States the following January.

On December 29, 1898, the new Catholic church was formally

dedicated by Bishop Schwebach. This handsome structure, erected at a cost of many thousands of dollars, standing on an eminence, is one of the show places of Tomah.

In May, 1899, the Third regiment was reorganized as a state organization, with Orlando Holway as its colonel, and Company K was mustered into the service of the state in May by Col. George Graham, many of the veterans of the Porto Rican campaign going into the company, and its commissioned officers were the same who had recently been mustered out.

On February 12, 1901, a serious fire occurred in the store of the Tomah Cash Mercantile Company, which had succeeded C. A. Goodyear, in which there was a loss of about $2,000, mostly on the stock.

"Wash" Snow, as he was familiary called, a veteran engineer in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company, and a long-time resident of Tomah, was killed June 25th at Portage. James P. Galiger, at one time county superintendent of schools, passed away on July 21st.

At the school meeting in July the proposition came up to build a new high school building, the old building being overcrowded and it being very evident that a move of that kind was necessary. The meeting adjourned without taking any action until early in August. At the adjourned meeting, after considerable discussion, a resolution was passed appropriating $25,000 for a new high school building, resulting in the erection of the present handsome and well-appointed structure.

The assassination of President McKinley shocked the community, as it did all others. On September 19th a memorial meeting was held at the armory in which addresses were made by Captain Butters, Rev. Johnathan Smith, Rev. Louis Wurst and others. At about this time the agitation was commenced for a sewerage system and for street paving by the Advancement Association, and went to the extent of consultation, and E. Sands, a civil engineer, as to the cost, etc. This matter came up later on for action and caused considerable heated discussion among the citizens as will be seen.

On the night of November 31, 1902, the postoffice was broken into and robbed of stamps and cash to the amount of $1,400. The safe was blown open by the burglars and some of the fittings of the office damaged. The robbers made their escape.

Tomah had for years numbered among her citizens many men who were almost experts with the shotgun. A shooting

club or gun club had been in existence for a number of years, which had joined the Wisconsin League of Gun Clubs, and Tomah was successful in securing the fourth annual tournament of the organization, which was held May 25 and 26, 1903. At this meeting there were gun clubs from Appleton, Antigo, Columbus, West Superior, Merrill, Marshfield, Monroe, the National Gun Club and the South Side Gun Club, of Milwaukee, Palmyra, Rhinelander, Racine, Sparta, Two Rivers, Viroqua, Waupaca, Wausau and Marinette, in attendance. There were eighteen contests or events on the program. The big event, however, was the one of twenty-five targets for the championship of the state. This was won by Charles D. Johnson, of Tomah, who made the remarkable record of twenty-five straight hits.

During the month of May a unique school institute was held at the government Indian school, being an institute conducted somewhat on the lines of public school gatherings. The institute was conducted by Superintendent Compton, of the Tomah Indian school, and was participated in by about fifty instructors and superintendents from five or more different states. The meeting was held May 6th and 7th, and was very interesting. As a result of the agitation mentioned before regarding sewerage and paving, the first step was taken in September, 1903, when macadam pavement was put on two blocks of the business section of the city, a much-needed improvement, as before that the street had been simply a clay road, requiring constant filling and working, and in wet weather was sometimes inches deep with mud.

Word was received that R. P. Hitchcock, a former resident, passed away at St. Louis, Mo., on November 20th. Mr. Hitchcock was one of the early merchants of Tomah, and for a great many years prominent in municipal affairs. He was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland, serving one term.

During November of this year the city authorities closed a deal by which the city became the owner of the old "Whitfield" property, for use as a city market. A little later on, however, the dwelling upon it was, and is now, used for housing the public library, and the premises have not been used for market purposes. Here will undoubtedly be the site of the new "Buckley" public library building.

On May 11, 1904, Company K inaugurated the custom of celebrating the date when the company was mustered into the government service in the Spanish war. A large parade, headed

by the Third regiment band, including Company K, Spanish War Veterans and others, went to Gillet park, where appropriate exercises were had, followed by sports in the afternoon and a large ball in the evening. This custom has been continued since with the exception of one or two years.

Alva Stewart Goodyear, formerly lieutenant and later captain of Company K, died at Chicago, May 13, 1904. He was a graduate of the Tomah High School and a veteran of the Spanish-American war. His funeral was attended by a large delegation of his comrades and friends. An old pioneer in the person of Amos Greenfield passed away on May 16th. Mrs. C. A. Goodyear, mother of Captain Goodyear, soon followed him and departed this life at Chicago, May 25, 1904. In December of this year this section was visited by a very severe blizzard, which resulted in considerable suffering, especially by live stock. It lasted for three days, December 28, 29 and 30, and will long be remembered by the inhabitants. Railroads were blocked, telegraph and telephone communication cut off for some time, and business generally was demoralized.

In January, 1905, on the 6th, Company K indulged in a jollification in unveiling the "Pfister trophy," which the company had won during the past year by its excellent work in all departments. This trophy is given for the best all around company in the state and is held for one year until won by some other or the same company upon its record. In February the Crescent Glee Club, of Sparta, with about thirty-five male voices, visited Tomah, gave a short program at the Indian school in the afternoon for the pupils and a concert at the armory in the evening, which was greatly enjoyed by a large audience.

February 23rd, the old Advancement Association having passed into history, the business men of the city met in a preliminary session to take steps to organize a new Advancement Association. This was brought to a succesful conclusion, the society organized and a formal opening of the rooms secured for it in the Lynch block took place on the evening of March 24th. This organization has been a great benefit to the city in many ways, as it makes concerted action possible on propositions affecting the commercial interests especially. Its committees have been, and are, active in the interests of the city generally and through their efforts many municipal improvements have been furthered. Another block of macadam paving was put in during the spring of 1905 on Superior avenue, between Monowa and

Juneau streets. With the completion of this the agitation for sewerage and paving was renewed, and this marked the beginning of a long fight in the city council, which resulted in a deadlock in September and nothing was accomplished that year.

On January 23, 1906, Harvey Seymour, a conductor on the Valley division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, was instantly killed in the yards at Tomah. In February, on the 16th, Oscar Zimmerman Camp No. 20, Spanish-American War Veterans, was organized with Capt. W. W. Warren as commander. The camp was named after a member of the company who died in Porto Rico during the campaign. The organization has been successfully maintained, as has a good membership.

The spring of 1906 marked a hot campaign for municipal officers. The long drawn out fight on the former council regarding sewerage and paving resulted in a united action of the people who desired those improvements. Hon. Thomas McCaul, under whose administration of former years as mayor the first improvement was inaugurated, that of water works, was drafted as the candidate for mayor of the party in favor of improvements and a campaign began which was the most bitterly fought, perhaps, of any in the history of the city. It resulted in the election of Mr. McCaul and enough members of the council to break the deadlock which had existed before that, and prospects then began to look bright for paving.

Tomah was now indeed a city with all the things that go to make up municipal life, so there must be a strike; and there was one, not a very big one to be sure, but a number of men employed in the bridge works of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul company took it into their heads to walk out, which they did, claiming increased pay. The strike was of short duration, however, as men were too easy to get in this locality. The strikers went back to work and the industrial war was over.

Lieut. Irving Jones, first lieutenant of Company K during the Spanish war, was instantly killed at the town of Lake, near Milwaukee, by the cars, on July 2, 1906. Mr. Jones had formerly been employed in the bridge shops of the St. Paul company here as a painter. He served with distinction in the campaign in Porto Rico, and when the company reorganized became first lieutenant of the company, which position he held for a short time until he moved away with his family.

As was stated in this chapter, quite a number of the citizens of Tomah enlisted in Company H, Tenth Wisconsin Infantry,

during the rebellion, and on October 7th and 8th a reunion of the Tenth Wisconsin was held at Tomah, participated in by a large number of the survivors of that regiment. The sessions were marked by much interest in the way of reminiscences. A banquet closed the meeting fittingly.

The advance of years had began to tell upon the earlier citizens, and one by one they dropped away. January 6, 1907, Capt. Charles K. Erwin, so long identified with Tomah, died at Savanna, Ill., the funeral being held at Tomah on January 11th. Captain Erwin came to Tomah in 1868 after a brilliant record in the war of the rebellion. He went into the mercantile business, in which he continued until 1892. In 1881 he was elected state senator from this district, and served in that office until 1888. In 1889 he was appointed postmaster at Tomah and at the expiration of his term of office was made superintendent of the new State Home for the Feeble Minded, which had just been built at Chippewa Falls, which position he held for a number of years. He was prominent in the councils of the head organization of the Woodmen of the World, and was well known throughout the state in his time. He enlisted in the Forty-seventh Illinois on October 22, 1862, and rose through the various grades to the rank of captain. He was a member of the Loyal Legion and of Henry W. Cressy Post, G. A. R.

An old land-mark went up in smoke the latter part of January in the old freight depot. This building was the depot and freight house of the St. Paul road in early years. A new building was erected by the company farther west for freight purposes.

At a meeting of the common council, February 19, 1907, plans were adopted for a sewerage system for the city and five and one-half miles was ordered laid. Tomah received a boom in the form of the railroad shops, which were located here and buildings erected during 1907. The works were moved here from Milwaukee and brought a large number of families. This, in connection with the bridge works, which had been moved to the city in 1890, made a large plant employing several hundred men, with a pay roll of several thousand dollars per month, added greatly to the growth and prosperity of the city. Nineteen hundred and seven was a year of tornadoes. On July 5th the city barely escaped the effects of the terrible cyclone which did so much damage in the town of Oakdale. This storm, which wrought so much damage and loss of life in the northeastern part of the county, passed within a short distance of the city, but fortunately, did no damage here. In August, on the 10th, however, the city did not

escape so easily. A tornado struck the place with much force, tearing down the partially completed walls of the new Cash Store on the old Sherman House corner, wrecked the hay barn of Henry Meinecke on his farm just west of the city limits, blew down telegraph and telephone lines and did much damage in a minor way to buildings in the city.

John Little, an old-time resident, a veteran of the civil war, and one of the oldest engineers on the St. Paul road, died in Colorado on October 20, 1907. Mr. Little was an old and respected member of the community, a member of Henry W. Cressy Post, and for many years identified with the growth and improvement of the city. He was a strong Mason and served in several capacities at different times in that order.

In January, 1908, Tomah people contributed liberally to the relief of the cyclone sufferers and $1,300 was raised by the Business Men's Club and used for that purpose. The old fight on street paving came up in the council in February and was again held up in that body, and the war began once more. At a meeting on March 16th plans were adopted by the council for paving Superior avenue. At the spring election W. J. McMullen was elected mayor and the project was again halted after a fight between the mayor and the council. The council meeting of July 6th was a warm one indeed. Brick paving was adopted, however, by a close vote, but at a later meeting in July the entire project received a body blow from which its advocates did not recover until about the middle of August. By that time the people had practically settled down to what they wanted, and on August 18th the paving ordinance was finally adopted.

The remodeled and enlarged Catholic school building was dedicated by Bishop Schwebach on September 17, 1910. On July 22nd of this year William Feiting, one of Tomah's solid business men, passed away at his home. He came to Tomah in 1868 and engaged in the tailoring business. In 1890 he built the present Feiting block on Superior avenue, in which the business has ever since been conducted, his sons, William and Frank, succeeding to the management. Mr. Feiting was a progressive business man, always found on the right side of municipal questions, and highly respected by his business associates and the community generally.

But the worst was to come, that is, some people might say so, and some say it was the best, for after a campaign on the temperance question Tomah went "dry" at the spring election of 1910 by a majority of five votes. This vote was so close that the gentlemen who had theretofore been engaged in the "wet goods"

business determined to have a contest upon the matter and accordingly engaged attorneys and brought the matter into court. But after one or two hearings the contest was dismissed and Tomah was sure "dry," and it stayed dry, the law being rigidly enforced by the authorities.

This condition existed for a year and in the meantime an election had been held on the amount of the license, which was increased to $800.00. The following spring another election was held on the license question at which license was carried by a fair majority and the city has remained "wet" up to this time.

After all the agitation, turmoil and strife over the paving question the final completion of the brick paving of Superior avenue and the continuation of the macadam road from the head of Superior avenue out to the cemetery, was nevertheless a matter of great pride and rejoicing to the citizens generally, for nowhere in the country can be found a handsomer street; outside of the business district the boulevarding of the center, with its closely clipped lawn and artistic setting of shrubbery makes a beautiful appearance in the summer months. With this has come the desire of the citizens in some section to improve the side avenues, and with the improvements in Gillett park it can truly be said that no prettier or well-kept city can be found anywhere in this great state. In addition to that there is pervading the atmosphere of Tomah a sort of a progressive spirit which can best be described by saying that its people "hang together" when anything important is necessary. It is true that among themselves they have honestly differed upon questions of municipal policy, but let any matter of general interest to the city be proposed and they get into line quickly as one big community and tackle any question which may arise with true "Tomah spirit," and generally carry out what is undertaken. This is a happy condition for any municipality and its benefits are more than demonstrated in this hustling little town. It has increased in population until it is now but a few hundred behind its sister city, the county seat; its business interests are large and varied and the volume of business transacted in the course of a year compares with that of the county seat most favorably and, in fact, is greater than most cities of its size in the state. Surrounded nearly on all sides by a good farming country, it is the central market for a large region, affords excellent markets for stock and produce, and now has the benefit of transportation over both the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul and the Chicago and Northwestern Railways. Everything points to a healthy growth in the future, and could old

Chief "Tomah" come back from the "Happy Hunting Grounds" and gaze upon his namesake he would surely feel a great thrill of pride that such a city bears his name, wrap his spirit blanket around his tall form, turn and stalk back into the Great Beyond with a smile of contentment on his noble countenance that for all time his name would be perpetuated.

Many old records of the city have become lost or been destroyed so that no detailed list of the men who have served their community in official positions can now be given. Suffice it to say that as a rule they have been broad-minded and painstaking citizens who have served their fellow citizens well and faithfully. The population of Tomah at the census of 1910 was 3,419.

The officers of 1912 are: W. B. Cassels, mayor; William Koopman, city clerk; E. A. Daherr, treasurer; Theodore Schmidt, assessor; E. Bartels and A. E. Hollister, justices of the peace. Supervisors—H. B. Sowle, First ward; A. Kress, Second ward; H. Coome, Third ward. Aldermen—First ward, F. F. Button, Daniel Crowlet; Second ward, Emil Schmidt, E. J. Kelley; Third ward, E. E. Griswold, James McClatchie; city attorney, W. B. Naylor.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE TOMAH SCHOOLS.

Just as it should be, the cause of education was practically the first public institution started by the people who originally settled in the future village. A few weeks after the arrival of the early settlers and after their establishment, plans were made for opening a school of some kind. At first a corn crib was the only building available, which was situated west of the cemetery of today.

Miss Emma Bush, who had been attending school in Milwaukee, being the daughter of Harvey Bush, a pioneer merchant, returned home and was offered the position as teacher. The first class consisted of the members of three families, Mrs. Lottie Wood, mother of Miss Minnie Wood, who is now teaching in the city schools, and her sister and two children from a third family. The teacher and pupils soon found that it was not pleasant to hold school in a corn crib and during the next summer it was transferred to a log house which stood near the site of the Watsen Earle residence. The front part of the building was used as a storeroom, and it is related that one night two sacks of flour which were stored there were broken open by some pigs who had gotten into the building, and the next morning the school room was found to be literally dusted all over with flour.

Ten children attended the first school, but when the railroad came through in 1858 the little village grew rapidly and arrangements were made for a larger building, which was soon erected on the corner where Harvey Sowle's residence now stands. This was the first building erected for school purposes in the village and it was used a great many years, and afterwards turned into a residence. At one time the father of the editor of this work, Dr. J. F. Richards, lived in it with his family during a time of the building of his residence in that village, and it is to be presumed that the editor received some of his early education by absorption from the atmosphere surrounding this educational building.

There still was but one teacher, but the increase in population

required a corresponding increase in the teaching force. Soon school was held in various places in the village which could be procured for the purpose. One of these temporary class rooms was above a blacksmith shop located south of the residence owned by H. H. Sherwood. Another was in a store building situated in the middle of the block north of the postoffice, and classes were also held in the building located near the freight depot, these locations being selected on account of the convenience of the families living in the different parts of the village. During these early school years there was no regular course of study. A student was allowed to take as few or as many branches as he wished, and could drop a subject or begin it a second time. Latin was introduced in the school in 1868 when there was an instructor who was capable of teaching that language. At another time, when no other form of language was being taught, a class of French was organized by the wife of a principal. It seems that a teacher then taught the subject he knew the most about. All teachers were engaged for a term of three months instead of a year, as is the case today, and the necessary changes were made at the end of the three-months' period.

A new building was soon erected on the corner where the Central building now stands, and in 1870 the school was graded with the following departments: Primary, intermediate, grammar and high school. The course of study then embraced reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, geography, history, orthography and higher arithmetic. From time to time additions were made to this building as the number of pupils increased, and in this old wooden school house in 1880 were held the first graduating exercises when a class of three, one of whom was Miss Ida Miller, who has been employed for so many years in the Tomah schools, received their diplomas. The principal at that time was T. B. Pray, who later became president of the Stevens Point Normal School. There were no graduating classes in the years 1881-1885-1887.

In 1884 in response to the necessity for better accommodations the annual school meeting passed a resolution appropriating $16,000 for the purpose of erecting a high school building. Contracts were let and with the removal of the old wooden structure a new brick building for high school purposes was erected, and is what is known as the Central building. The old school building was sold to the highest bidder, being Thomas McCaul, who cut it in two parts and converted it into dwelling houses. The two portions are still standing today near the site where it formerly

SUPERIOR AVENUE TOMAH

stood. In the summer of 1890-91 primary schools were established in the First and Third wards.

Meanwhile the high school curriculum was extended and three courses of study offered, the English, Science, and the Classical. The additional fact that the school was placed upon the accredited list of the State University gave evidence of the progress that had been made. Under the superintendency of Mr. Clark, afterwards at River Falls Normal School, the first school library was established.

Little interest was taken in the improvement of the school grounds until 1891, when Mr. Reigle was principal, and as the year went on new departments were added to the system, E. H. Cassels organizing the kindergarten, and C. H. Maxon, who preceded Professor McNeal, introduced drawing in the grades, and it was during his incumbency that the present high school was built in the year 1902. Before this building was erected the high school was held on the second floor of the Central building, and for a short time the seventh and eighth grades were held in the old Catholic church, now known as the Auditorium. The old high school became so crowded that these two grades had to be conducted in this place until the new high school was finished. It was not long before the grounds were made beautiful by the walks, trees and terraces, and in 1909 shrubbery was planted which added much to the beauty of the grounds.

Even with the new departments which had been added in the past and the improvements which had been made, others seemed necessary, and under Professor McNeal the first supervisor of music was engaged. Of course the contrast between the schools of 1856 and 1912 is great, but it is simply another illustration of the progress which is bound to come with the growth of settlement and civilization. From a corn crib to a magnificent high school building with the beautiful grounds is a long step, and from a course of study consisting of most anything to several courses from which a graduate of the high school may step into the university without examination is indeed good progress. The smallest graduating class was that of 1888, which consisted of but one member, and the classes of 1911 and 1912, each consisting of thirty-six members, have been the largest.

In addition to other departments under Professor Bray there have been introduced domestic science for girls and manual training for boys, and the Tomah High School is now not only upon the list of the university, but stands high among educational institutions in this and other states, and its graduates are accepted

without examinations in a number of prominent educational institutions.

The faculty of the years 1911-1912 are as follows: F. M. Bray, principal, science; Adeline Keifer, assistant principal, German and mathematics; Florence Hargrave, English; May Rice, history; George Karnopp, mathematics and political economy; Emmett Hassett, science; Mary O'Keefe, Latin; Belle Soukup, domestic science; Earl W. Eversmeyer, manual training; Julia O. Harvey, music.

Board of Education—W. B. Naylor, Jr., president; H. B. Sowle, clerk; W. L. Howes, treasurer.

Many of the prominent business and professional men of the village and city have served on the school board. The policy pursued has uniformly been that of liberality, broad-mindedness and a desire to bring the schools to the highest standard possible, with a result that has been very gratifying and is a source of pride to every citizen of the city of Tomah. Back of it all has been the true "Tomah spirit," which marks the energy and persistence with which any public movement is aided by the good people of the city.

Among the students have been maintained the usual societies of these modern days, especially debating clubs, and these had a place in the school scheme from very early times. Athletics have come in for a prominent part and the football, baseball and track teams of the Tomah High School have at times reached high places in the school athletics of this part of the state.

Perhaps the most prominent society is the Alumni Association, which was organized in June, 1893, at a meeting held at the high school rooms, and through the nineteen years of its existence has grown in membership with each succeeding year, until now its meeting is quite the social event of the year. At the outset the custom was inaugurated of holding a banquet and business meeting on the night or evening after the graduating exercises and to receive into full membership the class just graduated. This custom has been continued through all the years with the result that its membership keeps pace with the graduates and is far better than holding its meeting at some other time of the year when the graduating class has scattered and never again are all together, perhaps, and consequently do not join the society, as is the case with other associations of the kind. At its banquets fine programs of toasts and addresses are arranged, interspersed with musical numbers, followed by a business meeting, and usually a ball, and in connection with the opportunity to renew "auld

acquaintances'' it has become one of the principal events in the school year, the session of 1912 being unusually well attended as it was carried out as a sort of a ''home coming,'' resulting in many coming from quite a distance.

One pleasant event of this last session was the presentation to Miss Adeline Keifer of a diamond ring in remembrance of her twenty-five years of faithful labor as assistant principal of the high school; a rare character whose uniform kindness and courtesy, coupled with thorough methods, has made her the friend and almost the companion of the successive classes who have graduated during this time; a little woman richly endowed by nature to fill just such a position, and in it accomplish great good perhaps greater than in any other sphere of life. Many of the alumni and alumnæ have achieved prominence in the various walks of life. Among them may be mentioned Col. W. W. Warren, now the head of a great banking house in Tomah and the father of a growing family, who achieved prominence not only in business, but in a military way as captain of Company K during the Spanish war, and since as colonel and inspector of small arms practice of the national guard; the Boltons, Herbert and Ed, who have taken prominent places in the educational world; the Powers boys, Will and Bert, prosperous merchants at Grand Rapids, Minn.; Edwin Cassels, a prominent attorney, now practicing his profession at Chicago, Ill.; the Thompsons, Alva and Charles, the former of whom served several terms as superintendent of schools of this county and is now the head of the industrial school at Richland Center, where his brother Charles is also employed; Alva Goodyear, now deceased, who made a fine war record; Jennie McCaul-Hart, who has become a prominent club woman in the state; Lulu Janes, whose fame as a musician and vocalist is now assured; John G. Graham and Wm. R. McCaul, both prosperous attorneys, practicing at Tomah; Ida Miller, still engaged in teaching the young idea in the Tomah schools; Arthur Winter and Ray Bell, both prominent physicians at Tomah; George Robertson, who served as county superintendent of schools for two or three terms; Claude Sowle, now the doughty captain of Company K; and so the list might be multiplied, for the Tomah High School has sent her share of good men and women into the world to reflect credit upon the mother institution.

Perhaps the man who attained the most prominence from among the number was Earnest Buckley, whose untimely death brought sadness to his host of friends; he was born at Millbury,

Mass., September 3, 1872; his boyhood days were spent in Tomah, graduating from the high school in 1890 he entered the university, graduating in 1895; he continued his studies there, specializing in geology, and acquired great prominence in this work; he was made director of the natural history survey of the state, and in 1898 his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of doctor of philosophy; he was soon after called to the position of state geologist to the state of Missouri, where he moved to Rollo; he became an eminent authority in geology and mineralogy and his services were in great demand in the practical application. He was also honored by being chosen president of the American Mining Congress. In the fall of 1911 he located in Chicago and opened an office as consulting geological engineer.

In the prime of life and in the midst of a brilliant career he was suddenly stricken down. His heart had always been true to the little high school and to the little city of his boyhood, for after his death it was found that he had bequeathed a sufficient sum to be devoted to the purpose of building a library for the city of Tomah, which will be his monument for all time.

His death occurred at his home in Chicago on Friday, January 19, 1911, his remains being brought to Tomah and interred in the family lot upon which a handsome vault will be erected.

LIST OF GRADUATES.

Class of 1880—Mary Ida Miller, Ida Auten and Curtis Boorman.

Class of 1882—Addie Leach, Bertha Irons, Randolph Richards, Will Powers, Bert Powers, Addie Earle and La Mont Boorman.

Class of 1883—W. W. Warren, W. S. Mason, Luman Wariner, Charles Calkins, Tressa Maxwell, Hannah Carneel, Carrie Thompson, Minnie Howard, Ruby Earle, Jessie Button, Georgia Jackson and Evelyn Barber.

Class of 1884—Fred Perry, Bert Stannard, Mary Perry, Bert Naylor and Jennie McCaul.

No record of class of 1885.

Class of 1886—Nellie Howard, Mae Mather, Josie Miller, Harrison Barber, Perry Cowles and Grace Graham.

No record of class of 1887.

Class of 1888—Edith Kenyon.

Class of 1889—Herbert Bolton, Edwin Cassels, C. F. Moll, George Varney and Anna Wilson.

Class of 1890—Earnest Buckley, Alva Thompson, Adolph Wilson, Gertrude Janes, Carrie Perry, Melzina Smith, Una Richardson and Ethel Maynard.

Class of 1891—Edith Howard, Nellie Alverson, Libbie James, Will McCaul, Belle Button and Anna Monahan.

Class of 1892—Charles Thomson, Herbert Calkins, Grace McMillan, Jennie Voswinkel, Nina Lombard, Blanche Bennett, Clara Spaulding, Ella Wells, Ella Perry and Minnie Wood.

Class of 1893—Lottie Wood, Fred Thompson, Frank Sauer, Dora Heintz, Minnie Root, Bessie Jackson, Alva Goodyear, Hattie Nicholis, Herbert Johnson and Gray Graham.

Class of 1894—John Brennen, Jessie Hill, Otis Calkins, Ray Bell, Fred Barrows, Roy Bolton, Earnest Wyatt, Bernard Paley, Jennie Jennings, Albert Rich, Ella O'Leary, Ella Hastings, May Graham, Lulu Janes, Carrie Jones, Mamie Ebert, Laura Bolton, Minnie Wells, Clara McPherson and Eleanor Voswinkle.

Class of 1895—Louie Corrigan, Emma Earle, Ellen Gammons, Harriet Hall, Gertrude Reynolds, Arthur Winter, Wallace McPherson, George Cassels and George Robertson.

Class of 1896—Wilda Hancock, Rufus Jackson, Lottie Jackson, Edith Root, Maud Bell, Herbert Wright, Alfred Schultz, Eugene Hancock, Rose Barbour, Isabelle Bliven and Edward Wells.

Class of 1897—Orpha Woodard, Gertrude Zimmerman, Susan Graham, May Scott, Mary Donovan, Alice Gunnison, Cora Schroeder, Simon Bailey, Rosco Jennings, Bert Cassels and W. J. Tarr.

Class of 1898—John Larkin, Laura Spaulding, Grace Talbot, Grace Cristy, Euphemia McKane, Lula Palmer, Maud Boyington, Dora Drowatzsky, Jessie Goodenough, May Smith, Alice Hanchett, Della Polifka, Flora Earle, Will Healy, Will Falkner, Harry Spaulding and Claude Sowle.

Class of 1899—Grace Bolton, William J. Brennen, Ione Gove, Edith Mosley, Will Gooder, George Marcher, Lula Sowle, Gertrude A. Smith, Pearl Gammons, Ellen Clay, Belle Newsome, William D. Smith, Clara Schedler and Lula Scott.

Class of 1900—Hal Sowle, Catherine Treat, Fred Ebert, Marius Larsen, Edgar Secor, Charles Tarr, Joanna Donovan, Hattie Dewey, Mary Garnock, Myrtle Seibold, Kathleen Graham, Grace Cassels, Glen McClatchie, Edith Christie, Charlotte Reynolds, Lizzie Schenecker, Rosa Drowatzky, Mabel Stevens, Nellie Brennen, Rosa Baumgart, Anna Clay, Ella Jennings, Charles O'Brian and Bertha Drowatzky.

Class of 1901—Ella Birr, Otto Uttech, Captain Aller, Nellie

Edwards, Pearl Eaton, Frank King, Ethel Sowle, Lucetta Case, George Anderson, Gertie Smith, Gertrude Smith, Susan Wells, Anna Costello, Ralph Ford, Oscar Schroeder and Rudolph Andres.

Class of 1902—Ethel Abbott, Edwinna Bolton, Gertude Benjamin, Louis Baumgarten, Harry Bell, Grace Dunning, Hattie Hanchett, Louis Hancock, Edith Johnson, Fred Johnson, Grace Keeler, Ben Reynolds, Ruth Stevens, Edith Sowle, Mattie Sweet, John Tarr, Earnest Vandervort, Vera Wyatt and Fred Walter.

Class of 1903—Tessie Brennen, Josephine Bongers, Delia Drew, Jessie Daniels, Ralph Goodenough, Grace Garnock, Florence Jay, Ella Johnson, Ed Spaulding, Lela Howard, Mary Sizer, Kathryn Costello and Sue Moseley.

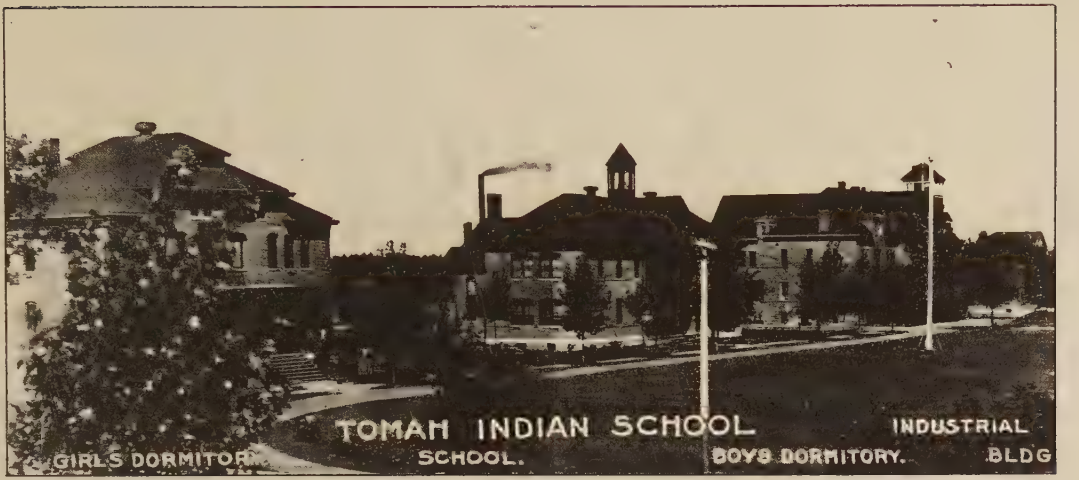
Class of 1904—Pier Aller, Bessie Brace, May Barrett, Agnes Brennen, Walter Drew, Norma Fitch, John Louis Franz, William A. Gilson, Pearl Heineman, Allan Homermiller, Nina Homermiller, Pearl Henry, Francis Johnson, Don Keeler, Clara Mathews, Alva McMullen, Rena Olson, Blondina Pingle, Minnie Pingle, Grace Randall, Leslie Spence, Theodore Smith, Gloria Tolles, Roy Washburn, George Wells and George Bell.

Class of 1905—Dell Wilson, Anna Wolf, Myrtle Smith, Jennie Stanley, Leonard Stevens, Amy Randall, Laurence Larson, Josie Lingonblod, Alex. Garnock, Gertrude Freemore, Nete Moseley, Mae Moran, Herman Mast, Bernard Mast, Lillie Kuckuck and Percy Daniels.

Class of 1906—Arthur Atkinson, J. E. Black, Weina Briesemeister, Fred Bentzen, Lola Dickenson, Florence Fraser, Will Fraser, Hugh Johnson, Mabel Keene, George Kuckuck, Charles Kupper, Hilmer Loehr, Coral Logan, Anna Nelson, Nora Peterson, Josephine Pragge, Inez Purdy, Tom Sheehey, Grace Schroeder, Lucy Sowle, Ray Spooner, Mina Spradling, Vila Stone, Minnie Thom, Lillian Yackel and Ella Young.

Class of 1907—Frank Andres, Nelly Barry, Marcena Black, Ada Birr, Herman Birr, Dorothy Bernie, Edith Beardsley, Laura Bosshard, Ella Drowatzky, Alpha Diemer, Archie Harris, Vernon Hilliker, Will Howes, Edna Larson, Bessie Medd, Jesse Meinecke, Gladys Olson, Earl Terry, Jessie Irwin, Nena Dano, Ray Talbot, Mae Vandervort, Ella Warner and Ethel Wyatt.

Class of 1908—Charlotte Button, Louis Barnes, Irene Baker, Arthur Boehmer, Fay Burger, Lydia Cross, Constance Cross, Edward Franz, William Gleis, Will Homermiller, Harold Holmes, Leland King, Leo Keley, Edward Kruger, Frank Moran, Rosa Manaige, Ruth Maxwell, Edith Steinke, John Sweet, Katherine Tibbitts and Hazel Wells.



TOMAH INDIAN SCHOOL

Class of 1909—Glen Barber, Catherine Bethauser, Raymond Bolton, Carl Cady, Nellie Dano, Timothy Donovan, Frank Drew, Jr., Hazel Elwell, Jessie Johnson, Florence Johnson, Harrison King, Edward Kupper, Rosa Kuckuck, Bessie Lamb, Mary Linehan, Selma Mathews, Cecil Mahr, Claude McConnell, Ray McMullen, Mae McWithy, Harry Moran, Rosa Otto, Edwin O'Leary, Anna Robertson, Elsie Ranthum, Jessie Reynolds, Edna Rezin, Vella Syverson and Beulah Warner.

Class of 1910—Byron Black, Ralph Baker, Eva Cornish, Laura Dravel, William Dravel, Margaret Flaharty, Robert Getman, Nina Goerbing, Louis Hoag, Stella James, Bernice James, Irene Kuckuck, John Kitzki, Elizabeth Kitzki, John Kress, Joseph Kress, Lizzie Linehan, Margaret Moran, LaVerne McClatchie, Genevieve Oakes, Lydia Stelter, Margaret Smith, Hazel Webster, Russell Wells and Anna Wolf.

Class of 1911—Mabel Dreps, May Prickett, Raymond Eberhardt, Lois Smart, George Von Haden, Henry Greutzmacher, Grace Kuckuck, George Knick, Edna Reinhold, Edgar Staben, Rudolph Hopp, Alice Snodgrass, Arthur Janes, Anna Cramer, Amanda Reisenauer, Henry Retter, Deycie Rose, Arthur Verick, Elizabeth Blaschke, Minnie Wolf, Ada Sandley, Sadie Rodell, Archie Chapman, Jessie Chapman, Oscar Eirschelem, Steven Donovan, Earnest Yeager, Elmer Bell, Ruth Treat, Elizabeth Goerbing, Pearl Schwartz, Vere Johnson, Walter Detert, Steven Taylor, Roy Fitch and Alvin Wirth.

Class of 1912—Gladys Forrest, Bessie Eberdt, Lillian Tibbetts, Gertrude Kippen, Mitchel Tuttle, Evelyn Alderman, Robert Graewin, Raymond Smith, Iva Medd, Mary Mast, Otto Birr, Lela Bongers, Leslie Bongers, Frieda Last, Perry Gilmore, Earle Sullivan, George Fuhrman, Beatrice Regalia, Hazel Gilson, Una King, Mabel Maxwell, Mary Clay, Ruby Lamb, Neta Williams, James Finucain, Edward Mick, Katheryn Howes, Lonie Barnes, Leila Janes, Sarah Libbey, Hugh Hilliker, Alfred Bongers, Marguerite Sherwood, Edwin Finnerty, Mary Simonson and James Moran.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

TOMAH CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.

The First Baptist Church. Was organized August 6, 1859, a meeting for the purpose being called at Staysa's hall, at which the Rev. L. C. Herrick was chosen moderator, and A. Kendall clerk proteur; eleven brethren and sisters of the Baptist Church enrolled themselves as members.

The constituent members were Brethren Simeon Wood, Jesse Boorman, Peter Cramer, Alden Cramer, H. J. Sherman, and sisters Mary Jane Wood, Lucinda C. Boorman, Lucinda Powers, Elizabeth Cramer, Polly G. Sinery and Atlante Cramer.

The New Hampshire Article of Faith and Church Convenant, as given in the "Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge" by J. Newton Brown, was endorsed and adopted by the church. Simeon Wood was elected deacon and Alden Cramer church clerk. A ministerial committee was appointed and also a committee to purchase lots for a meeting house. By invitation of the church soon after, members of neighboring Baptist churches, on October 26th, 1859, met and an ecclesiastical council convened for public recognition services. Soon afterwards the Rev. L. C. Herrick was called to the pastorate of the church, measures were taken to build a church and about two years thereafter a meeting house was dedicated. This building was remodeled in 1874 and again in 1897.

The church property is now valued at about $4,000 and is free from debt. Since its organization in 1859 there have been received into membership 404 persons. At present there are ninety-seven resident members and forty-four non-resident. The following is a list of the ministers, which we believe is complete, in the order of their pastorate: Rev. L. C. Herrick, Rev. E. D. Barbour, Rev. W. H. Card, Rev. I. H. Cameron, Rev. T. D. Growe, Rev. I. C. Weeden, Rev. B. H. Barber, Rev. Phillips, Rev. J. H. Bowker, Rev. R. S. Parshall, Rev. W. H. Barner, Rev. W. M. Robinson, Rev. Roberts, Rev. J. J. Gorham, Rev. B. P. Russell, Rev. Arthur White, Rev. Hayden, Rev. Agar, Rev. G. Cressy, Rev. C. H. Smith, Rev. W. D. Bancroft, Rev. C. E. Henry, Rev. C. C. Colby and the present minister, Rev. H. M. Spickler.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Began with a Sunday school gathered and conducted by Mrs. C. K. Erwin and Mrs. John Little in McCaul's hall, in 1874. A congregation was formed and after several meetings was regularly organized in March, 1874, with the Rev. E. DeWolfe, of St. John's church, Sparta, as priest in charge, and the following officers were appointed: John Bostwisk, warden; L. Martin, clerk, and John Little, treasurer, the Rt. Rev. Edward R. Wells being then the bishop of the diocese of Wisconsin, the entire state being in one jurisdiction at that time; the following clergy succeeded as priest in charge on the respective dates: Rev. J. B. Gedelupe, 1878; Rev. W. H. H. Ross, December, 1883; Rev. L. H. Shubert, October, 1884; Rev. F. K. Allen, 1886; Rev. C. P. Dorset, January, 1890; Rev. S. W. Moran in 1892; Rev. C. E. Roberts, 1894; Rev. B. T. Bensted, September, 1898; Rev. R. Rowley, October, 1899; Rev. A. F. Schepp, July, 1902; Rev. A. F. Ruge, April, 1904, and the Rev. James W. Smith, February 1, 1907, who is still in charge. The present officers are L. B. Squier, warden, William B. Naylor, treasurer, and Dr. C. L. Anderson, clerk, under Rt. Rev. William Walter Webb, bishop of the diocese.

The church was built and opened September 23, 1879, being then situated on Kilbourn avenue, in the north end of town; it was consecrated in October, 1881, and in July, 1892, it was moved to the corner of Kilbourn avenue and Monowau street, its present location; it was rebuilt and enlarged with a chancel. The church also owns a rectory situated just north and across the street from the church.

Methodist Episcopal Church. This organization was undoubtedly the pioneer church in Tomah, and it is to be regretted that a complete record does not seem to be available. In 1857 Rev. C. W. Kellogg preached the first sermon ever delivered in Tomah. This was on the first Sunday in July of that year, the meeting being held in a new barn erected by Robert E. Gillett. This gave an impetus to the movement to organize a church, which was accomplished this same year, and during the next year a neat church building was erected, meetings prior to this being held wherever most convenient. The congregation now owns a fine church building situated on the site of the old one, being a commanding position on a slight ridge. The building is well equipped and the congregation large. The church is in a prosperous condition. Among its ministers have been many men of prominence in the Methodist Church, among them Rev. Chas. E. Butters, who left his church and went into the Spanish-American war from Tomah, enlisting as a private. The Rev. Haskell, the

present pastor, is a man of broad mind, a thorough student, a man of strong executive ability and an impressive speaker.

The Congregational Church. The history of this organization commenced with the coming of the Rev. Mr. Wells in 1858. At first, as is the case with all pioneer movements, meetings were held at private houses until the little organization grew strong enough to erect a church building. This was accomplished in 1859, when a frame church was built, the congregation regularly organized as the "First Congregational Church of Tomah." The meeting for the church organization was held in Staysa's hall pursuant to notice which had been regularly given by Rev. W. F. Avery, the pastor of the Congregational church at Sparta, and Rev. F. M. Gams. At that meeting the following trustees were elected: William F. Shaw, Daniel Braman, Robert E. Gillett, John Dodge, Henry W. Cressy, John Howard and S. D. Powers.

In 1861 the Rev. Wells, on account of ill health, was compelled to resign the pastorate of the church at Tomah, as he was also in charge of the church at New Lisbon, at which latter place he made his home. From that time on the pulpit has been occupied by many ministers, a list of whom it is impossible to give at present. As ministers are called to the service in the Congregational church by the congregation, the ministers served various periods.

The church building has of late years been remodeled and considerably enlarged and is well equipped for church purposes. The congregation also owns a parsonage situated next to the church, which is modern and a fine home for the resident pastor. At present the Rev. J. W. Smith is the pastor, having occupied the pulpit for a number of years; a strong man in the church and one who has made his good influence felt in the community.

The Catholic Church. The first organization of the Catholic Church of Tomah was in the year 1867, the first priest being the Rev. M. M. Marks, who attended from LaCrosse. During the year a church building was erected at a cost of $2,500, being superintended by the Rev. John Casey, who attended from Mauston. The first resident priest was Father J. T. Durward, who took charge in 1870 and remained many long years the priest at Tomah. A man of broad education and liberal views he endeared himself to people generally and was highly esteemed by the citizens of Tomah.

The Tomah church has been again fortunate in the services of Rev. Louis Wurst, its present priest, who has been a resident

for many years. His great executive ability has shown itself in the management of its financial affairs, for under his charge has been erected a fine brick church, equipped with a town clock, a fine residence for the priest and St. Mary's school has been greatly enlarged and improved. The new Catholic church, erected on a commanding knoll, was formally dedicated on December 29, 1899. The remodeled St. Mary's school was dedicated by Bishop Schwebach, of LaCrosse, on September 17, 1910. The congregation is prosperous and the church property is now one of the finest in buildings and equipment to be found in any city of the size of Tomah.

The German Methodist Church was organized in 1866 and a church building erected in 1870. A parsonage was subsequently added to the church property, the church itself remodeled. The congregation, though small, is earnest and prosperous and much good is accomplished by its members.

LODGES.

Tomah Lodge, No. 132, F. & A. M., was organized and dispensation granted April 19, 1861. The charter members were C. W. Kellogg, Noah Maltbie, A. B. Smith, J. P. Thompson, John Dodge, Enoch Baker and S. D. Powers.

The first officers installed were C. W. Kellogg, W. M.; Noah Maltbie, S. W.; A. B. Smith, J. W.; J. P. Thompson, secretary; John Dodge, treasurer, and Enoch Baker, tyler. The first meetings were held in the upper story of an old blacksmith shop situated on the back end of the lot now occupied by Warren's bank. Afterwards it held its meetings in different halls until 1884 when, by an agreement with H. S. Beardsley the lodge became the owner of the upper floor of the brick building so long used as the postoffice and now owned by Harvey M. Sowle. This was the home of the lodge for many years until an opportunity came to get more commodious quarters. The lodge purchased the upper floor of the building situated in the block just north of the old Sherman House, being erected by M. H. Moore, and now has fine lodge and reception rooms, a commodious dining room and kitchen well equipped. The Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Masons and Order of the Eastern Star occupy the rooms.

Tomah Chapter, No. 63, R. A. M. Dispensation was granted for the organization of this chapter of Royal Arch Masons on January 27, 1887, and the charter was issued February 22, 1888. The chapter has a fine set of robes for the work and is steadily

growing in membership. At present F. S. Narrows, Jr., is high priest; Peter Johnson, king; John G. Graham, scribe, and C. H. Wicklund, secretary.

There is a strong lodge of the **Order of the Eastern Star,** which, as has been stated, occupies the lodge rooms of the Masonic Temple.

Tomah Lodge, No. 178, I. O. O. F., was organized under dispensation granted March 15, 1870, the charter being issued by the Grand Lodge January 19, 1870. The charter members were: Thomas McCaul, L. S. Benjamin, O. T. Sowle, A. G. Schultz, R. Kinmore, Charles Organ, Charles S. Hubbard, George B. Robinson, J. P. Tracy and H. A. Sowle.

The first officers elected under the dispensation were Thomas McCaul, noble grand; H. A. Sowle, vice grand; O. T. Sowle, recording secretary; G. B. Robinson, permanent secretary; J. P. Tracy, treasurer. The lodge held its meeting at first in the Masonic Hall until 1881, when their own commodious lodge rooms were built. The lodge home is situated right in the heart of the business district on Superior avenue, has a large lodge hall with ample ante-rooms, a large dining room and finely equipped kitchen, all well furnished and modern in every way. The present officers are C. F. Fick, noble grand; J. N. King, vice grand; H. C. Bongers, secretary. There is also a lodge of Rebeccas, which occupy the same lodge rooms.

Tomah Camp, No. 554, M. W. A., was organized March 21, 1888, with forty charter members, among whom were many of the prominent business men of Tomah; F. S. Barrows, Ernest Bartels, J. J. King, R. P. Hitchcock, H. H. Sherwood, C. K. Erwin, O. J. Eaton, C. E. Quigg, G. R. Vincent, J. H. Mosely, George B. Anderson, L. W. Earle, Peter Johnson, Thomas McCaul, Robert Schroeder, W. C. Hommermiller, W. H. Schultz, Fred Meinecke and others. I. N. Palmer was its first and only clerk, making an enviable record of twenty-four years' faithful service since the first organization of the camp, truly a testimonial of the strongest character of the confidence and esteem with which he is held by his brother Woodmen. The camp now has its quarters in the Odd Fellows Hall, where it meets twice a month; there are now about 180 members, the camp is in good condition financially and in every other way.

There is a strong lodge of **Knights of Pythias** at Tomah, the official records of which were not available for the purpose of this work.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

THE HELPING HAND SOCIETY OF TOMAH.

This unique society is one the like of which should exist in every city and village and the example of which has been made by this little organization in the city of Tomah as to what can be accomplished in doing good to your fellow creatures through the broad exercise of diplomatic charity is one which any community, no matter where situated, can well take heed. The society was organized September 8, 1886, as an auxiliary of a Universalist church, which church had planned to establish in Tomah, but the plans were not carried through and the society soon afterwards became a non-sectarian charitable organization.

The following ladies were the original members or joined soon after the organization of the society: Mrs. George H. Warren, Mrs. J. H. Warren, Mrs. W. N. Alverson, Mrs. C. A. Goodyear, Mrs. W. W. Alverson, Mrs. E. M. Hamilton, Mrs. H. H. Ackner, Mrs. C. Stannard, Mrs. Julia Eaton, Mrs. Electa Wilkins, Mrs. D. P. Rockwood, Mrs. A. Soule, Mrs. H. L. Crandall, Miss Jessie Campbell, Mrs. George Graham, Mrs. C. F. Richardson, Mrs. George Thomas, Mrs. H. Doxtader, Mrs. W. Earle, Mrs. N. R. Richardson, Mrs. R. Toombs, Mrs. B. Irons, Mrs. E. W. Beebe, Mrs. L. Richards, Mrs. Addison Cady, Mrs. C. Merrill, Mrs. H. W. Calkins, Mrs. G. R. Vincent, Mrs. L. Cady.

The first officers of the association were: Mrs. A. Cady, president; Mrs. E. Hamilton, vice president; Mrs. Adenzy Irons, secretary, and Mrs. George Warren, treasurer.

The object of this society is to relieve the needy, which the members have tried to manage in such a delicate and diplomatic way that their beneficiaries may not be pauperized, but helped in the time of misfortune and whenever possible aided and encouraged to help themselves. The committees appointed for the several wards in the city inquire into every case brought to their notice and such assistance as seems advisable is rendered. The society has had the hearty co-operation of the public and so has been enabled to do much work that it otherwise could not have done, especially at the Christmas season, when it is the object of

the organization to get a box of clothing, toys and other things to each needy child who otherwise might have none of the season's good cheer; and many are the little hearts who have been made glad through the thoughtfulness and kindness of the Helping Hand Society.

In 1898 when the war cloud was dark and threatening and the boys of the local military company were making preparations to go to the front, the Helping Hand Society formed a nucleus around which gathered those who wished to help in preparing bandages and small conveniences that "our boys" could carry with them, and when the company was at Charleston, S. C., the members gathered and sent a box of bedding and many other useful articles and money with which to purchase medicine and other necessities. When the society was first organized it met at the various homes of its members, but in 1887 it purchased what was known as the Central Hall or the old skating rink, selling it a little later and securing a portion of the armory building as soon as it was completed, in which the society holds a financial interest and have a long lease of rooms on the upper floor consisting of a living room, kitchen and dining room for their use; and under the arrangements with the Armory Association the society has the use of the entire building for the cost of opening and lighting it for any entertainments which they may wish to give for the purpose of raising money to go into its treasury.

The present membership of the society consists of the following ladies: Mrs. G. A. Altenberg, Mrs. W. D. Bosshard, Mrs. William Cassels, Mrs. J. Hancock, Mrs. Thomas McCaul, Mrs. J. J. King, Mrs. C. Quigg, Mrs. F. K. Talbot, Mrs. F. S. Barrows, Mrs. E. Crocker, Mrs. William Homermiller, Mrs. D. P. Rockwood, Mrs. Treat, Mrs. A. N. Cross, Mrs. B. Irons, Mrs. C. Maxwell, Mrs. J. B. McMullin, Mrs. C. T. Sipple, Mrs. E. Terry, Mrs. Burlin, Mrs. Alice Eaton, Mrs E. Polifka, Mrs. H. H. Shaterwood, Mrs. G. H. Warren, and the following honorary members: Mrs. L. Burdick, Mrs. H. Boxtader, Mrs. D. E. Miller, Mrs. A. Cady, Mrs. Sherman.

The present officers are: Mrs. Eaton, president; Mrs. Talbot, vice president; Mrs. Cassels, treasurer, and Mrs. King, secretary.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

TOMAH PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Like the beginning of most institutions of this character, the Tomah Library was instituted through the efforts of a few citizens, who believed that such an institution was necessary. Mrs. S. D. Palmer called to her assistance several ladies of the city and in the summer of 1881 organized what was known as the Tomah Library Association; these ladies gave an entertainment, the proceeds of which were used to purchase the first books of the library, and these were afterwards supplemented by the gifts of various citizens. The books were at first kept in the photograph gallery of the late E. N. Palmer, where they remained for about a year. Later the citizens gave to the Library Association the use of a room in the city hall, where it was housed and where it remained for a great many years.

Soon after the library moved into the city building the city appropriated $100 per annum for the purchase of books, and at about this time rules and regulations were drawn by Judge George Graham and an annual fee of $1 was charged for the use of the books, which fund was used for the purchase of books.

The first librarians were Mrs. S. D. Palmer, Mrs. John Boorman, Mrs. Ida Vincent and Mrs. Rockwood, all of whom served faithfully and long without any remuneration, the latter up to July, 1902. Some years prior to this it was turned over to the city and became a municipal institution and was controlled by a board of trustees, three in number, appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the common council, and became known as the "Tomah City Library."

In July, 1902, a change of librarians brought about the reorganization of the institution under the state law, and on December 18, 1902, the board of trustees met in the council chamber of the city hall in response to the call of Mrs. F. S. Barrows; three additional members, bringing the board to the legal number, having been appointed by the Hon. W. E. Nuzum, then mayor of the city, it was found necessary to adopt by-laws bringing the library into harmony with the state laws governing public libraries.

The members present at this meeting were Mrs. F. S. Bar-

rows, Mrs. Frank Fieting, Mrs. John King, Rev. Father Wurst, Dr. A. R. Bell, Mrs. C. H. Maxon, Mr. A. S. Goodyear and by invitation Miss Cornelia Marvin, of the State Library Commission, who presented a set of by-laws, which, with minor changes, were adopted. The election of officers was then declared in order following: Rev. Father Wurst, president; Mrs. F. S. Barrows, vice president, and Mrs. John Fieting, secretary. The action of the former board as to the appointment of Caroline W. B. Voswinkel as librarian was confirmed and the purchase of supplies necessary to inaugurate to the new system of changing books, cataloging, etc., was authorized. All the books were called in and the library closed to the public during the reorganization which occupied a period of about two weeks.

The librarian was assisted in the work of reorganization which was under the supervision of Miss Marvin, of the State Library Commission, and by Miss Reilly, of Madison. After the completion of the reorganization the library was thrown open to the public on January 2, 1903, with 793 books on the shelves, with a registry of 105. The library continued to be housed in the council chamber of the city hall until December, 1903, when through the efforts of the mayor, Hon. W. E. Nuzum, the "Whitfield" property on Superior avenue was purchased and the library moved into its present quarters. The growth since 1902 has been steady, the days and hours of opening having been gradually extended from twice a week to daily opening; this last commencing November, 1911. The actual number of its borrowers is fully one-third, if not more of the population of the city. At the last annual report dated June 30, 1911, the number of volumes in the library was 3,733 and is now approximately 4,000 volumes, and circulation for the year June 30, 1910, to July 1, 1911, was 19,688.

The library is supported by the city and receives an appropriation beginning with the current year of $1,200, apportioned approximately as follows: One-third for books and periodicals, one-third for the librarian's salary, and one-third for current expenses. The city of Tomah will in a short time have a fine new library building, undoubtedly located on the site of the present occupancy, a gift from the estate of Dr. Ernest R. Buckley, a former resident of Tomah and a graduate of the Tomah High School, who acquired considerable prominence as an expert geologist and having in mind, undoubtedly, the welfare of his home town, made provision in his will for the building of a library building to be presented to the city of Tomah.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT CLUB OF TOMAH.

By Ella D. Goodyear.

It was in 1907 that the members of three exclusive clubs in Tomah came together one day for a joint session of mutual benefit.

The leaven of social service had faintly begun to work in the minds and hearts of a few, so when the suggestion to form a civic club with an unlimited membership came it found a few enthusiastic sponsors, and the club became a reality at that time. Members of the study clubs, who had part in organizing became charter members of the civic club. Mrs. F. S. Barrows was the first president, with Mrs. W. W. Warren as secretary.

It took the entire year to organize, make definite, workable plans and make the club popular, for it had to be popular in order to get into its ranks indifferent women and prejudiced ones. Some were opposed to club work, using the old argument that it took too much time away from their home duties. But the five years' existence has proven the fallacy of this argument, because all the club work carried on has been in the interest of the home and now the most intelligent women in the community belong. The club has been fortunate from the beginning in having the business men's club rooms for meetings. It has added 50 per cent to the interest in the club.

Standing committees have carried on from the beginning a definite line of work, and taking each in turn I will try to show those plans, and some of the results accomplished. For three successive years the art committee has held in the club rooms an art exhibit, charging a low rate of admission. School children have been admitted always at a nominal price, and have been encouraged to come. The Copley, Turner, and Elson prints have been exhibited, and from these the committee has made wise selections for the walls of the school rooms. These pictures were given by the club. One year Mrs. John B. Sherwood, of Chicago, exhibited colored prints and American oil paintings in the high school, giving special talks to children. She also gave a fine

stereopticon lecture on Italian art to a mixed audience in the evening. This visit from Mrs. Sherwood, a recognized art lover and critic, was a great inspiration to the community at large. As a result of five years' work, this committee, the personnel of which changes every year, has not only given the city opportunities in art, but each school room in the city has at least a copy of one fine picture on its walls.

The educational committee has done thorough and conscientious work in many lines. Visiting committees of club members regularly visit the schools and this has brought teachers and parents into closer touch; occasionally school receptions are held in the different buildings for parents and teachers.

Tomah has always had to its credit a broad-minded school board. Suggestions for repairs and decorations in school rooms, improvements in sanitary conditions or increase in library facilities from this committee have always met with a ready response from the board. In the central building a beautiful rest room has been fitted up. Teachers, pupils and the school board cooperated with the club to accomplish this. At present the same combination is working for play ground equipment for the large and spacious grounds surrounding this same building. Under the direction of this committee also, the club annually gives a reception to the teachers, which is always a pleasant and social affair.

Perhaps the largest task undertaken by the committee was the agitation for music, manual training, and domestic science in the schools. But after the patrons of the school became assured of the benefits to be derived from these branches, the matter was easily and quickly settled at the annual school meeting of 1911, and as a result the Tomah high schools are among the most up-to-date in the state. The music committee furnishes a piano for the club rooms the year around. By this means every meeting has a good program of music. School children under the leadership of the music teacher often entertain, and many high school students of talent have been brought before the public in this way, and also have given much pleasure to others.

The library committee has always been in accord with the library board and librarian. Their active work has been confined to substantial gifts heretofore. One year the committee held a double program, calling it Library Day. The afternoon program was given up to a review of the past and an analysis of the present by the librarian. The past was reviewed by some of the founders of the library, who gave a most interesting account

of the beginning and early struggle of what is today an excellent free public library. The evening was devoted to the possibilities of the future for a library, with an address by Miss Stearns of the State Library Commission.

The civics committee started out with the definite plan of making Tomah more clean and more beautiful. With this purpose in view, and with the financial support of the C. A. Goodyear Lumber Company, they engaged Mrs. McCrea, a professional landscape gardener of Chicago, to come to Tomah to plant trees and shrubs in all private yards of owners interested. The only expense to the owners to be the cost of the shrubs. Public school grounds, the library lot, and many unsightly places were cleaned up and beautified under the inspiration of Mrs. McCrea. Prizes to the amount of $100 were offered at the end of the season for those private places showing the most improvement. Since that time an annual Municipal Cleaning Day has been appointed by the mayor. On one cleaning day the citizens of one neighborhood secured the use of Barrows Grove, a natural beauty spot in the southeast corner of the city, as a picnic ground for the public. They cleaned it up, and made picnic benches and tables and hung swings. Recently the civics committee has assisted the schools on Arbor Day by arranging for the planting of trees.

The Junior Civic League is a protege of the civics committee organized in the schools. The children buy league buttons to wear and sign a pledge to keep the city clean and to protect the birds and animals. Penny packages of flowers and vegetables are sold to the children in the spring. In September a flower and vegetable show is held, prizes being given for the best.

The Humane Society was organized under the direction of the civics committee, but entirely independent to the club. A campaign against bill boards, agitation for a saner Fourth, rest rooms for county fair week, are some of the proposed reforms now in committee. The club as a whole has raised money for a large fountain for dogs and horses, costing $400. And the latest effort has been a Tomah cook book, gotten up primarily as a means of earning money, and has been successful from every standpoint.

The ways and means committee has always had an important part to play in the club, for without it no work could have been accomplished. They have given card parties, dances, a ball game between the professional and the business men of the city, and in many ways raised the necessary funds. The social commit-

tee has done effective service by promoting sociality, providing entertainment for members and their friends. They arrange for the annual banquet each year, and one year gave a complimentary banquet to the Business Men's Club.

And last, but not least, must be mentioned the program and press committee, who keep the wheels oiled. They work early and late, but behind the scenes. Neither club members nor the public realize the faithful attention these committees must give to details. Many entertaining programs are given throughout the year, and many instructive ones. Men and women of note in the state have been guests of the club and spoken before it. Social center work, boy problems, domestic science, peace and conversation, are among the subjects which have been discussed. And not less helpful have been the interesting talks given by Tomah's own citizens on live topics of the day. At the close of five years' existence, the club is a prosperous and active agent in the plans for progress in the city of Tomah.

OFFICERS, 1911-1912.

President, Mrs. W. R. McCaul; first vice president, Mrs. W. W. Warren; second vice president, Mrs. H. J. Skinner; third vice president, Mrs. E. K. Tuttle; corresponding secretary, Mrs. A. L. Burt; recording secretary, Mrs. A. A. Fix; treasurer, Mrs. Wallace Taft.

Active Membership List: Mrs. O. L. Anderson, Mrs. R. Andres, Mrs. Robert Babb, Mrs. F. S. Barrows, Mrs. Earnest Bartels, Mrs. W. R. Bartels, Mrs. L. N. Burt, Mrs. Addison Cady, Mrs. T. B. Corrigan, Mrs. Frank Drew, Mrs. Alice Eaton, Mrs. Fred Eldridge, Mrs. Alois Fix, Mrs. Will Gleis, Mrs. M. Gondrezick, Mrs. A. S. Goodyear, Mrs. George Graham, Mrs. Clarence Hanover, Mrs. F. M. Hart, Mrs. E. E. Hatch, Mrs. C. C. Hazen, Mrs. Anna Homermiller, Mrs. W. C. Homermiller, Mrs. H. B. Johnson, Mrs. Carrie King, Mrs. E. F. Koon, Mrs. William Lee, Mrs. M. B. Lee, Mrs. E. Lockwood, Mrs. W. E. Barnhart, Mrs. L. W. Earle, Mrs. Thomas McCaul, Mrs. W. R. McCaul, Mrs. Charles McFadden, Mrs. L. McKain, Mrs. C. J. Maxwell, Mrs. E. Meloy, Mrs. M. Moran, Mrs. James O'Leary, Mrs. Sarah Palmer, Mrs. A. B. Pennewell, Mrs. C. E. Quigg, Mrs. William Roddell, Mrs. Edward Schwerer, Mrs. Elizabeth Seymour, Mrs. C. T. Sipple, Mrs. J. Simonson, Mrs. H. J. Skinner, Mrs. I. G. Stutsman, Mrs. Charles Taft, Mrs. Wallace Taft, Mrs. F. K. Tuttle, Mrs. F. K. Talbot, Mrs. Emma J. Treat, Mrs. George Uebele, Miss C. W. C.

Voswinkle, Mrs. W. W. Warren, Mrs. Waltman, Mrs. Charles Weiss, Mrs. C. H. Wiklund, Mrs. A. Withers, Mrs. W. B. Naylor, Mrs. George Warren, Mrs. C. J. Wells, Mrs. A. E. Winter, Mrs. A. C. Stone, Mrs. Charles Hanchett.

CHAPTER XL.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF TOMAH.

Goodyear Lumber Company. The original firm of D. A. & C. A. Goodyear was organized in 1876, its first plant being a portable mill located at Mather Station, on the Valley division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. In 1879 C. A. Goodyear became a resident of Tomah, and in 1883 the lumber yards of the company were located here, followed by the location of their large planing mill the next season, at the site where it now stands. In connection with the planing mill they put in an electric light plant and furnished light for the city and private residences and business houses for many years, until this part of the business was sold a few years ago to a stock company.

The company operated mills at different points on the Valley division when the building of the Goodyear railway in the heart of a large tract of timber resulted in the construction of their large mill at the station of Goodyear. After this pine was exhausted the company, having purchased a large tract of land in the northern part of the state with several hundred millions of good pine upon it, the big saw mill was moved to Tomah and arrangements made with the railway company to haul logs to the mill on the Valley division, which situation obtains today; a train a day of logs is delivered at the mill.

This saw mill has within the past few years been thoroughly overhauled and improved; is now operated by electricity and is considered a model of its kind and one of the best equipped saw mills to be found anywhere.

The Bridge Works. In 1890 the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company decided to locate its bridge building department at Tomah; this only came about after quite a contest between several towns along the main line of the road, as most of the cities from Watertown to LaCrosse, including both places, made offers of bonuses in various forms. The common council of the city of Tomah tendered the company ten acres of land lying north of the new depot, which offer was accepted, and it was mainly due

to the fact that Tomah was centrally located that induced the company to locate here and refuse more advantageous offers from other places.

It consists of a large office building and a factory building 60 by 350 feet, equipped with machinery for wood working; a large yard for the storing of lumber, timber, piles, concrete mixing apparatus and general supplies; there is also a paint shop in connection. At this plant not only are wooden culverts and bridges constructed, but depots, store houses and other buildings are manufactured ready to set up; it employs a large force of men and operates the year around.

The Frog Shops, as they are familiarly called, were located here by the St. Paul company, and the buildings erected for the plant in 1907; the shops are most modern, being equipped with electrical machinery and manufacture frogs for the tracks and other iron work; it is operated by a large power plant in a separate building containing powerful engines and huge dynamos, used for both power and lighting. This is a busy place and employs about from 100 to 150 men.

Sash and Door Factory, operated by Crosset brothers, started a number of years ago in a very modest way, is now a large plant employing quite a force of men; the company does an extensive business in contract work, from building frames and interior finish, to erecting of entire buildings. The plant has a fine equipment of machinery and is operated by steam.

Tomah Electric Light and Telephone Company now owns and controls the telephone plant and connecting lines and also the electric lighting plant; the telephone company is equipped with its own office building with modern switch boards, and owns a large mileage of line having connection with long-distance service. The electric light plant is the only one in the city furnishing street lights as well as for business places and residences; a well managed, up-to-date institution.

Farmers' Creamery was organized in August, 1902, and located its plant in the city building, a brick building with a most modern equipment; this institution has been successfully conducted and does a large volume of business each year running close to $150,000.

Soda Water Factory has been conducted for many years by M. Gondrezick at the same location known as the old "Grant House" corner. Mr. Gondrezick owns the building there located and uses the entire basement for his factory.

A Flour and Feed Mill is operated by W. H. Schultz & Co. in the same block in which the Sherman House is located, and enjoys a large clientage among the farmers.

A number of years ago a brick manufacturing plant was operated by Thomas McCaul near the city; good clay for the manufacture of red brick being found upon the property acquired by him west of town; it was operated for a few years, but for some reason was abandoned and the land used for farming purposes.

Another Wood-Working Plant is operated by the Tomah Manufacturing Company, which does general contracting in the building line; has been operated for about eight or nine years.

CHAPTER XLI.

BANKS IN TOMAH.

The early history of the banking interests in Tomah is not in the form of corporate existence; and up to the time of the change in the banking laws, were private banks owned by partnerships; no public record is available and no record at all can be found. In the early seventies Runkel & Freeman entered into the banking business in a white brick building in the block just south of Gillett park; what the capital invested was or the volume of business transacted is not now known. The Bank of Tomah succeeded this and was established by Thayer & Kingman, of Sparta, in 1879, and was also a private bank. These gentlemen were at the time conducting the Monroe County Bank at Sparta also.

But in 1893, Mr. Kingman having withdrawn from the business some years before, under the management of Mr. Thayer, both these institutions failed and went into the hands of an assignee, W. G. Williams, who wound up the affairs of both institutions.

With this exception the banks in Tomah have been conducted on sound financial principles, conservatively managed and have retained the confidence of the people in the city and surrounding country.

At this time Tomah is well favored with banks, having four banking houses, each, of course, organized under the laws of the state. The combined capital of these institutions is $90,200, and the combined assets foot up to the sum of $1,118,527.02, aggregated from the reports of June, 1912.

Warren's Bank was organized in 1888 as a private banking house under the name of J. H. Warren & Son. Its officers were: J. H. Warren, president; G. H. Warren, vice president, and W. W. Warren, cashier; the composition of this firm was unique in that it represented three generations of the Warrens, and at the time of the organization of the firm their ages were, respectively, eighty-six years, fifty-three years and twenty-three years.

As a private bank it had from the start the confidence of the public, and while still conducted as such its deposits ran up to

over $270,000, which is a remarkable testimonial of confidence in an institution without capital. This bank passed through three panics without closing its doors, and in the panic of 1893 was the only bank in the county that kept its doors open and did business at the old stand.

In 1903, under the laws then passed, it was organized as a state bank with a capital of $25,000; at that time John H. Warren had passed away and George H. Warren became president, W. W. Warren remaining cashier; the bank having been conducted under the same management for over twenty-three years up to the death of George H. Warren. W. W. Warren has succeeded to the position of his father and is now president and manager; J. P. Reinhard, formerly of the Monroe County Bank at Sparta, cashier, Norma Fitch, bookkeeper.

That under the management of Colonel Warren the same conservative methods are used and that the confidence of the public is still the same is evidenced by the deposits which in June, 1912, were $509,146.18, and this together with its capital stock, surplus of $5,000 and undivided profits, brings up the grand total to $541,743.55.

The bank occupies its own building, built in 1888, in which business was first opened up.

Bank of Tomah. After the failure of the Thayer bank in 1893, the opportunity to establish a bank business in Tomah appeared good to Frenk Drew, formerly of Portage, later of Dakota, where he had been engaged in the banking business with his brother. He came to Tomah late in the year 1893 and proceeded to interest some of the business men of the community in the organizing of a banking corporation under the name of the Bank of Tomah.

A banking corporation was organized with Frank Drew, Watson Earle and Charles A. Goodyear and William Feiting as its incorporators and principal stockholders. The business name of "Bank of Tomah," together with the building in which that institution had been housed, were purchased of the assignee, W. G. Williams, and its existence as a bank began March 1, 1894, with a capital of $25,000.

In September, 1903, an amendment was made to the articles of incorporation so that the capital was made $15,200.

C. A. Goodyear was its first president, with Frank Drew as cashier. Later Mr. Watson Earle succeeded to the presidency. The bank has been successfully conducted under the management of Mr. Drew since its organization; has the confidence of

the public and has a large clientage of depositors among the business men and farmers of the surrounding territory.

Its deposits in June, 1912, were $216,936.84, which, together with its capital, surplus and undivided profits, makes a grand total of $237,842.32.

Farmers' & Merchants' Bank. This institution has not been organized long enough to have much of a history, as its authority to do business dates from February 25, 1911. It was incorporated by Thomas E. Anderson, George P. Stevens and William J. Brennan; erected a handsome banking house on Superior avenue, starting business with a surplus fund of $10,000 in addition to its capital.

Thomas E. Anderson is president and William J. Brennan is cashier. Under their management, in little over a year, the institution has grown remarkably. In June, 1912, its deposits were $220,661.33, and taken together with its capital, surplus fund and undivided profits, makes a grand total of $256,243.76.

The State Bank. This bank also is of so recent an organization as to preclude any historical sketch, for its history is yet to be made outside of the fact of its organization and commencement of business. Its organizers, believing the field for another bank at Tomah still a good one, notwithstanding the fact that there were three other banking institutions, incorporated under the state law with a capital of $25,000; J. P. Rice, C. B. Drowatzky and G. C. Pingel were its incorporators; the present officers are, J. P. Rice, president; G. C. Pingel, vice president; C. B. Drowatzky, cashier; H. B. Vaudell, F. O. Drowatzky and A. O'Leary, directors.

The bank opened business under circumstances which seem to insure a good growth in business. During its short existence its deposits have reached in June, 1912, $57,074.14, and, taken together with surplus fund and undivided profits, makes a total of $82,692.39 at that time.

CHAPTER XLII.

THE TOMAH INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Perhaps one of the most interesting educational institutions in the county is the Indian Industrial Boarding School located at Tomah; this is one of the several schools owned and conducted by the United States Government for the education of Indian children.

When in 1890 the subject was agitated of establishing an Indian school in the central portion of Wisconsin, a strong competition began between several cities of the state to secure the school; Tomah, Sparta, Eau Claire, La Crosse, Black River Falls and several other cities entered the contest and all sorts of inducements were offered to the government authorities. The city of Tomah offered to purchase a farm of 200 acres located two miles north of the city limits for the farm and the buildings; the citizens were successful in securing its location; originally the sum of $25,000 was appropriated for the initial expenses of building the plant; the original buildings consisted of a large brick building and boiler house containing heating plant and laundry. Since that time six brick and ten frame buildings have been added and the farm has been increased by the Government to 340 acres. This farm is under the management of an expert farmer and a competent dairy man is also employed, who has at this time under his charge fifty Holstein dairy cattle. Much valuable instruction is given to the Indian boys by the manager of these two industries and at the same time considerable experimental work has been done and is now being done on the farm under the direction of the Agricultural Department of the State University. All of this furnishes instruction of the finest kind for the benefit of the Indian boy pupils, who are thus receiving a practical education in farming and dairying and in other agricultural pursuits. In addition to that boys are taught carpenter work; there is a complete course in domestic science and art for the girls which is maintained in a well equipped building provided for that purpose.

The Government pays all the expenses of the pupils, including

transportation to and from school; they are kept for a term of three years and literary instruction is given during nine months of the year, the pupils being carried through the eight grades of the common school branches being the state school course for Wisconsin. Pupils are received from any of the middle western states and most of them come from Wisconsin, some coming from Minnesota and Michigan.

The school is maintained under the semi-military discipline and the boys wear a neat blue uniform trimmed with red, and the girls are dressed in becoming dresses; they are taught the habits of cleanliness and all of the pupils live at the school in large dormitories which are cared for by the pupils principally. Some of the girls, in fact most of them, show a great talent for needle work and turn out beautiful pieces of embroidery and other fancy work as well as neatly executed plain sewing. The boys go into athletics quite freely under the instruction of their teachers and for a number of years a football team has held up the honor of the little Indians in various contests with high school and other teams throughout this part of the state; every summer a baseball team has been supported consisting entirely of pupils of the school and under the instruction of an expert ball player who formerly graduated from the Carlyle School, and is a ball team which is no mean antagonist and plays games with different clubs in this part of the state.

For a number of years a brass band has been a part of the equipment of the school and the young Indian boys take to music very readily; the Tomah Indian School Band has quite a reputation in this part of the state; the entire band is composed of the Indian youths of various ages under the instruction of an Indian leader, a man by the name of "Look Around"; he is an excellent slide trombone player and a very fine musician. Many of the graduates of the school have taken responsible positions and have made homes for themselves and great benefit is derived from this institution; it is hoped that many good citizens may be made from the Indian children in the future as has been done in the past.

The present superintendent, L. M. Compton, has been in charge of the school for the last fourteen years and his fine executive ability, together with a disposition which seems to be suited to over-mastering difficulties, has built up an institution which is second to none of its kind anywhere in the country; Mr. Compton is considered a vlauable citizen of Monroe county as well, as he is public spirited and has given a good deal in the interests of the community at Tomah. He recently was appointed a gov-

ernment Indian agent for this section of the state and it is his duty to look after the tribal Indians and to conduct the government annuity payments, a duty which he performs to the satisfaction of the Indian department. A good residence is provided on the farm for the superintendent and also for the farmer, and together with fine outbuildings makes a plant which is not only valuable, but conducted in all lines in the highest of development and is visited by many people from different parts of the country. The attendance at the present time is 250 scholars.

CHAPTER XLIII.

STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Chapter 337, laws of 1885, made it the duty of the board of supervision, by and with the consent of the governor, to select a suitable site and erect thereon buildings for a state school or temporary home for dependent and neglected children—such institution to be known as the "State Public School." Soon after the enactment of this law the board advertised for proposals for furnishing a site for this institution, and received responses from Stevens Point, Waupaca, Green Bay, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, Ripon, New Lisbon, Sparta and La Crosse. Subsequently the board visited all these places, inspecting the sites proposed and canvassed the advantages of each locality, and, finally, with the approval of the governor, selected Sparta as the locality for the school, accepting an offer of a tract of land embracing 164.8 acres as the site. This land lies in one regular body on the northeast of the city, being partly within its limits, having the La Crosse river for its eastern boundary and one of the city streets as its western line. The location is in all respects a healthful one, possesses many attractions in itself, and commands a view of one of the finest landscapes in the state.

During the year 1886 three cottages were erected and equipped in accordance with the provisions of the law, two of them of solid brick, two stories and an attic in height, with stone basement, and capable of accommodating 100 pupils. The third cottage, a frame structure, veneered with brick, two stories and an attic above a stone basement, was devoted at first to the uses of the superintendent and his family, but subsequently to the accommodation of the young children, of whom it affords room for thirty. The institution was opened for the reception of pupils on the 13th of November, 1886, with Robert T. Roberts as superintendent. It soon became apparent, from the rapidity with which committments were made, that more room must be provided before the full benefits of the institution could be realized. Accordingly the legislature of 1887 made provisions for the erection of a central building, two cottages and such other structures

as it should deem necessary. The board of supervision, during that year, had erected the buildings named, and in addition thereto a boiler and engine house and laundry and a barn. The central building is of brick, three stories in height upon a stone basement, and furnishes room for the superintendent and his family and employes, a general kitchen and large dining room, an assembly room and offices. The cottages are of brick, two stories and an attic in height, with a stone basement, and furnish accommodations for sixty pupils each. A school house, two stories in height, containing three class rooms and necessary halls on each floor, and furnishing accommodations for about 250 pupils, was erected in 1889, as were also a cold storage building, ice house and additional farm buildings, and a dwelling house on adjoining land purchased was reconstructed into a comfortable hospital.

In August, 1891, the board of control elected F. L. Sanborn, of Ashland, to be superintendent in place of Mr. Roberts, whose term had expired. July 7, 1892, fire, believed to be the work of an incendiary ward, destroyed the roof and upper story of the main building. The building was promptly reconstructed at a cost of $4,814.96. The primary object of the institution is to furnish a temporary home for dependent and neglected children until suitable homes can be found for them in good families. While they remain in the institution they are instructed in the elementary branches of an English education.

July 1, 1895, Hon. S. S. Landt was elected to the superintendency, which position he held for four years. Under his administration a general hospital was constructed at a cost of $3,300; also an addition to the laundry building for storage purposes at a cost of $1,000. M. T. Park succeeded Mr. Landt on July 1, 1899, and continued in office nine years. During his administration the following buildings were erected: Horse barn for driving teams, at a cost of $2,250; two playhouses or pavilions, costing $300 each; new coal shed with capacity for storing 600 tons of coal, at a cost of $4,000; shed for farm machinery, at a cost of $300; two additions were built on Cottage "D," increasing the capacity from fifteen to thirty babies, at a cost of $6,000.

C. M. Bright succeeded Mr. Park as superintendent on July 1, 1908, and continued in office three years. Two new cottages were constructed at a cost of about $22,000; also other improvements of remodeling and new plumbing in the cottages, school house and kitchen, at an expense of $1,000.

J. F. Brown, superintendent of School for the Blind at Janes-

ville, was transferred to the State Public School, succeeding C. M. Bright as superintendent on August 1, 1911. Up to the present time 3,711 children have been committed, the majority having been placed in homes on indenture contracts, where they remain until they become eighteen years of age. The average population of the institution is now (May 29, 1912) 140.

CHAPTER XLIV.

VILLAGES OF THE COUNTY.

VILLAGE OF CASHTON.

Eighteen miles south of Sparta, on an elevation 700 feet above the county seat of Monroe county, overlooking one of the prettiest districts of farm lands in western Wisconsin, stands the village of Cashton. The land where the village is located is on section thirty, township fifteen, north of range three west, in the town of Jefferson, and was formerly owned by Andrew Nelson and Hans Larson, the latter of whom is still living near the village.

On September 28, 1879, William Byer came to the place from Sparta and bought the first lot sold where the Mitchell building stands at present, on the corner of Front and Broadway streets, and on this lot Mr. Byer started to erect a small building. Two or three days later Peter E. Nelson arrived on the scene and thus the Village of Cashton made its start. There was no place to board, and Mr. Nelson had his food sent up to him from Virequa for about three weeks. During the fall of 1879 nine business places and two dwelling houses were built; the business buildings were William Byer, shoeshop and boarding house; H. D. Tate, merchandise; W. H. H. Cash and W. Surdam, merchandise; Lee and Holderson, grain warehouse; Coats & Company and P. Sederson, grain warehouses; Lars Peterson, blacksmith shop; John J. Krain, a saloon; Newbury & Wagner, lumber office and the depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. Mr. Byer boarded a large number of the earliest citizens, as there were no married men in the village for some time except himself, M. Daniels, who was the depot agent, and Lars Peterson. His beds were made of two by fours and boards nailed together and filled with straw, and the boarders were obliged to sleep three in a bed.

Early in the spring of 1880 a new start in building was made by Utziner & Dahl, who built a hotel and saloon; Hansen & Bates, hardware store; Mr. Tony, a grocery store; and Dr. J. B. Growbridge, the first physician, arrived and occupied the second story

of the Bates store as his office, and in the spring erected a small building and opened a drug store. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Frank Dule, Sr., moved from Newry and erected the building now owned by his estate and the Odd Fellows jointly, and the same fall C. & J. Cremer erected a saloon on the north corner of what is now the Heilmann property. James Lord, who was running a small store at Hazen's corner, moved to the village and went into business there. George Hargrade also built a wagon shop the same year, and Louis Perkins a blacksmith shop and a residence.

One thing that troubled the people of Cashton very much during the first years of the existence of the village was the water supply. For a long time the only water works in the village were four barrels which were set in a small building near the depot, and Mr. P. R. Mitby was engaged to haul water from the railroad tank and from Jersey's spring, and the people went to him for their water. A little later Mr. Cash made a contract with someone to drill a well to furnish water for the village, and agreed to give a public square on the west side for a park if the well was completed, but it failed to materialize and so Cashton is still without her park, although there is now a sufficient water supply.

In June, 1881, the citizens met for the purpose of devising a way to provide sufficient water for the village, and propositions were made and accepted for a well which was drilled by John Minroth, in the street, near Broadway, then a part of the town of Jefferson, permission having been given by said town to have the well drilled. A water association was organized and its officers were: President, M. Daniels; vice president, J. Dahl; secretary, John King; treasurer, John Konper; trustees, J. W. Wagner, G. V. Hargrave and P. E. Nelson. On May 31, 1892, the water association voted to turn over its property to the village of Cashton, which was incorporated June, 1892. An election having been previously held to determine the question, which result was a vote of fifty-five for and ten against it.

The village for some time after the railroad was built was called "Hazen's Corners," but by the persistent efforts of Mr. Cash, who owned and controlled a large portion of the village property and who built the railroad for the company, it was christened "Cashton."

On May, 23, 1892, the first election was held, there being sixty-two votes cast; the following officers were elected: President, P. E. Nelson; trustees, John Cremer, Martin Jackson, A.

Roessler, Frank Delle, A. A. Du Mez and L. A. Lane; clerk, E. E. Gaines; treasurer, C. H. Campbell; police justice, A. Heizer; justice of the peace, L. B. Perkins; marshal, C. M. Culver; constable, William Schrier. The village in the last ten or twelve years has made rapid strides in improvements, putting in quite a little macadam streets and enjoying water works and an electric light plant.

A bank was organized at Cashton by Watson Earle, John C. Ford, L. W. Earle, Peter Nelson and some others, which conducted a good business as a private bank for a number of years, but in order to conform to the state law, it was incorporated in 1903; it subsequently built the handsome building in which it has its home. The bank has been well managed under the direction of L. M. Earle, its cashier, and enjoys the confidence of the community, and serves a large clientage of depositors.

The population is today about 568, and the present officers of the village are: E. O. Dosch, president; P. J. Hegge, clerk; L. M. Earle, treasurer; J. H. Wilgrubs, assessor; John Cremer, supervisor; Emet Peterson and H. S. Evert, justices of the peace. On Wednesday, October 5, 1904, the village had a grand jubilee celebration of a quarter of century of its existence and an elaborate program carried out which was much enjoyed by the thousands of people who came to participate. There is a high school and graded schools, conducted by a corps of competent teachers, giving fine educational facilities to the children of the village; the high school being taken advantage of by many pupils from surrounding towns.

The Congregational Church, of Cashton, is the only church in the village. It was organized September 22, 1892. Practically all the citizens subscribed liberally for the erection of a house of worship. The amount subscribed and $500.00 from the Congregational Church Building Society, of New York, constituted the "Building Fund." The building was soon completed and regular church work started. Mr. A. A. Du Mez has been Sunday school superintendent from the first. Mrs. Rena (Johnson) Barth has been the faithful organist.

The pastors who have served the church are the following: Rev. John Willan, Rev. Henry S. Evert, Rev. Lewis B. Nobis, Rev. James Rowe, Rev. Christian S. Johnson, Mr. Richard G. Heddon and Rev. Henry S. Evert, the present pastor. The church has been thoroughly remodeled and recarpeted and rewired for best electric lights, thus making it a modern struc-

ture. The parsonage and church are together valued at about $3,600 to $4,000.

KENDALL.

The history of the village of Kendall begins with the assurance of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in 1870 and its completion in 1872. It was the civilizer of this then wild region.

The man from whom the place took its name was a railroad contractor and never was a resident. He bought a considerable portion of the land on which the village is built while helping put the railroad through. In the early fifties, however, a railroad survey was made up the valley, and this, with the promise of a grist mill at Glendale, was the inducement held out to prospective settlers and purchasers of land by Jason Weaver, of Ohio, who had preempted most of the available government land.

For twenty years before the railroad was built the pioneers of Clifton and Glendale townships did their milling and merchandising at Mauston, Wonewoc, Wilton, Sparta, New Lisbon and Elroy. The pioneers often carried in from these places on their backs the bare necessaries of life, or when they could they used ox teams, it was not until about 1861 that horses began to be used. Because of the unusual advantages, for this rough country, presented by the location occupied by the village for yards, tracks and switching purposes, a larger tract other than the right of way was secured by the railroad company. A fourteen stall round house was built, and this was the center of a busy crew of artisans required to run the shops and machinery used in making and repairing for the company. The village was incorporated October 8, 1894, when O. B. Wyman was circuit judge. Walter Baxter was the first president, and the first trustees were Andrew Felker, G. F. Lillie, Charles Torrence, John Kier, W. S. Canney and James Gammon; other officers were W. T. Cutland, clerk; G. L. Adrion, treasurer; John Rose, assessor; Lewis Buswell, supervisor; Thomas Pierson, marshal; Samuel McQueen, constable, and R. B. Dunlap, justice of the peace. Thus the rule was transferred from the town board, which met at the village of Glendale.

The first setback the village had was in 1886, when the railroad division was moved to Baraboo; that took away a large number of families, but other things came to fill the vacancies and Kendall still enjoyed the advantage of being a registry station and the end of the "hill division," where extra crews and

engines were kept to double over the three tunneled hills between the village and Sparta. This railroad condition continued until the completion of the new line from Sparta to Milwaukee. The round house and coal sheds were then closed, the station force reduced and most of the remaining railroad men transferred to points on the new line, over which the bulk of the freight was now sent; this, however, has had no noticeable effect upon the business and prosperity of the village.

The second great drawback experienced by the village was on March 31, 1893, when a fire started in the brick veneer store of G. F. Lillie and wiped out the entire block of frame buildings. Plans were at once made to rebuild on a more substantial basis. Inside of a month the work of erection was begun, brick replacing the old frame structures, and by September 30th the splendid buildings now adorning the street were occupied by their owners and business was going along better than ever before.

COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

Immediately after the fire Henry Senz, then a resident of Clifton, bought the corner owned by J. J. Kelley and built one of the best hotel structures in any small town of the West. The hotel is now owned and conducted by J. L. Hayward. In October, 1903, the Kendall State Bank was incorporated by G. R. Hill, O. R. Holmes, L. H. Felker and Charles Marquette. Since then it has twice increased its capital and in 1911 completed and occupied its own handsome brick building. The village has five general stores, two hardware stores, a strong agricultural firm, a drug and jewelry store, two grist mills, a splendid farmers' creamery, two blacksmiths, two physicians, furniture store, lumber yard, harness shop, two real estate dealers, two hotels, restaurant, dentist, telephone system, photographer, barber, dray line, livery, four churches and three saloons. At this writing the village is putting in a waterworks system. Not the least important factor in the life and progress of the village is its newspaper, the Kendall Keystone. The paper was established in January, 1904, by Clarence S. Dodge. In July, 1905, it was purchased by Alexander R. McCleneghan, who has since conducted it. He came to Kendall from the desk of a city daily newspaper, but as a youth he had learned the mechanical part of the business in a country newspaper office, and his practical experience in every branch of the work has enabled him to make the Keystone one of the brightest and most prosperous country papers in the state.

CHURCHES OF KENDALL.

As near as can be ascertained Methodist preaching began in this vicinity as far back as 1854. "Grandpa" Moore preached in school houses for a number of years until the Rev. M. Doolittle took charge of the work. The first church building was erected soon after; later the building now in use was built and the old one sold to the Baptist denomination. The Glendale Methodist Church is connected with this charge and is supplied by the same minister. The church building there was purchased from the Episcopalians, who have no present organization. Later Wilton was also made a part of the same charge. Hoffman Corners was formerly included, but the membership was so reduced by removals that in 1911 services were discontinued there and the building sold.

The history of the Baptist Church antedates the Civil War, when, in 1858, one Elder Stevens, a pro-slavery southerner, began preaching in Glendale. The church became disrupted during the war and was not revived until 1874. In that year J. H. Bowker organized the Baptist Church of Kendall and Glendale, afterwards taking in Elroy. It was perhaps due to the efforts of John Baldwin, resident here until his death, that the organization owes its continued existence. The church building purchased from the Methodists was used until 1910, when the present modern building was erected. The Baptists now have as handsome a church home as can be found in any village of the size in the state and maintain all the customary church activities.

The Catholic Church began its existence in Kendall thirty years ago, the Rev. Father Kellar being the first pastor. He was followed by Father J. H. Herman, who resided in Union Center and had charge of the churches of that place, Elroy, Kendall and Wilton. When the church was first organized in Kendall there were but few families to support it; the building of the church depended upon those few and though started immediately after the society was formed it stood for five years with only the roof and sheathing as a protection against the rigors of winter. Previous to its erection the services were held in halls and private houses. The present building was completed about twenty-three years ago, but in 1911 was extended and much improved to meet the needs of a large, growing and prosperous congregation. The present pastor, the Rev. J. H. McAteet, has had charge of the churches at Kendall and Wilton for twelve years, living at Wil-

ton and holding service at the two places on alternate Sundays. He is now located at Kendall, the Wilton church being in charge of another pastor. At this writing the church here is erecting a $3,000 home for its pastor; it has become the strongest of all the churches in the village.

The German Lutheran Church has a brief history. The Kendall society was organized in 1909 by the Rev. Otto Engle, who came from Milwaukee, and a fine church building was at once erected and dedicated. The communion is a growing one, embracing many farmers and families adjacent to the village. The pastor resides at Norwalk and has charge of the church there, also holding service in the Kendall church every third Sunday.

SOCIETIES.

Kendall Assembly, No. 265, Equitable Fraternal Union, was instituted December 23, 1902, with seventeen charter members. The first officers were: President, Herbert Mist; treasurer, E. R. Gallagher; secretary, Jesse W. Jones. There are now fifty-five members in good standing.

The Camp of Modern Woodmen of America was organized in August, 1888, with thirteen members. Al Wyman was the first consul and Dr. G. R. Hill the first clerk and medical examiner. The membership at one time was over 100.

Tunnel Lodge, Knights of Pythias, was organized August 21, 1907, with thirty-five charter members. G. R. Evans was the first chancellor commander. The present membership is fifty-four.

In 1910 a Lodge of Beavers was organized. This had a brief existence, some of the members connecting themselves with the order elsewhere.

The Mystic Workers organized September 12, 1903, with ten charter members. The organization is still in good condition.

WILTON.

Until the first half of the nineteenth century the present site of the village of Wilton and vicinity was the camping ground of the Kickapoo Indians who roamed unmolested over this territory hunting the deer and the bear and waging war on their neighbors, the Mascotines and the Miamis. From them comes the name of the river which rises in a southern part of the county in the fertile valley in the vicinity of Ontario.

But civilization was bound to make its way and in 1842 Esau Johnson, of Prairie du Chien, as has already been described in another part of this work, loaded his goods on a raft and with

his family came up the Wisconsin and Kickapoo rivers across the rich farming land that had just been surveyed near the source of the Kickapoo river; he landed in the town of Sheldon at a point somewhere about half way between what is now Ontario and Wilton; he was the first settler near Wilton, but was soon followed by others who came in with ox teams from their old homes to the new; sometimes a family came alone and others came in groups of two or three families. It was a wild country, far from being civilized and it is related that one settler upon seeing the situation said: "Surely God made this country for the Indians and we ought to let them have it."

The first settlers took up land paying ten shillings an acre for it and as soon as possible built a little log cabin, and their lives for the first few years was not of the most pleasant. Money was scarce and as is the custom in all new settlements the inhabitants borrowed tea, flour, sugar and cooking utensils of each other in order to keep going.

Sparta was the nearest railroad town or shipping point of any consequence and the road to it was over rough ground filled with stumps and holes, and there flour could be purchased for $5 per hundred. One neighbor would make a trip, doing errands for the whole community and then jolt home again. Mail was brought from Sparta in saddle bags once a week, the carrier stopping to leave it at each door.

Wages were low and few could afford to hire men and many a man was glad to get work at 75 cents a day. The woods abounded in game, however, and it was not hard to provide fresh meat for the family table. After the farms were fairly started better buildings were erected upon them, and in 1855 Mr. Rhodes built a saw mill in the eastern part of what in time became the village of Wilton.

This, the first industry within the limits of the village, was soon followed by others. In 1856 Mr. Kinmore started a store in his dwelling house, now known as the Stedman place. Roads were improved and a stage line was established from Sparta once a week, bringing mail and passengers. A postoffice was established in Mr. Hillyer's house and this gentleman also started a blacksmith shop. Mr. Miller and Mr. Grey erected a grist mill where Vogel's mill now stands and soon afterwards Mr. Chapman built a little store near the mill. A Mr. Endrey built what was called Hickory Hall, being the first public hall in the village, the lower part of which was used as a store and the hall above for church services and social gatherings.

The first school house was built of logs and was situated on the eastern part of what is called Gooseville, on the south side of the road. In 1870 when the railroad question was agitated Wilton consisted of about fifteen buildings in all—a school house, two stores, one blacksmith shop and a grist mill, the saw mill having been abandoned some time before. As soon as the Northwestern road was started, people saw business openings and more buildings were erected; two stores were built on the corner where the opera house now stands; Moll & O'Brien built the red front store. Mr. Lyons built a store and Mr. Rice a blacksmith shop, which, although remodeled, still stands.

Mr. Walker built the first drug store, and a new school house was erected, but was soon afterwards destroyed by fire, but replaced by another and this is still standing, but not used. When the railroad was completed in 1872 it became a more desirable place for business and began to attract trade in a larger degree in the surrounding country. Dr. C. E. Phillips, who for so many years practiced his profession in the village, was the first physician to locate here and came in 1862.

A Roman Catholic Church was built in 1888, which afterwards became the property of the United Brethren; and in 1888 a German Lutheran Church and in 1896 a Methodist Episcopal Church, were erected. The village now has three hotel buildings, an opera house, a town hall and the mercantile interest that goes with the villages of its size.

Perhaps one of the best evidences of the prosperity of this village is the high school which was built in 1902-03 and is equipped in a manner almost equal to those of larger cities. The village has an excellent water works system and its people are progressive in other directions, keeping abreast of the times in municipal improvements.

In 1899 the Wilton State Bank was established by S. W. Brown, president and owner, with a capital of $5,000; in 1903 it was incorporated under the state law as the Wilton State Bank, with a capital of $10,000. As its business increased it required more capital and on February 1, 1912, the capital stock was increased to $15,000.

Its present officers are: President, S. W. Brown; vice president, Charles Todd; cashier, Charles Weingarten.

After the incorporation of the village its first election was held on December 23, 1890. William H. Ferris was elected president, A. S. Newhouse, clerk, and as trustees, H. W. Vogel, John Rice, C. Wurster, S. M. Titus, M. Cremer, T. S. Martin.

St. John the Baptist's Church, Wilton, Wis. "The first Catholic family known to have lived in the territory now included in the parish of Wilton, was that of Anton Tomah, who located about the year 1852, some seven miles north of the present village of Wilton. There were no churches in this locality at that time, but mass was said once a month in a little town hall at Tomah, then a small village of fifty inhabitants, by Father Noyes, at that time resident priest at Mauston. About a year later a few Catholic families came and settled in the neighborhood of Mr. Tomah. Thus the Catholic settlement increased from year to year until 1857, when Mr. Frank Barry took up a tract of land about four miles south of Wilton. Patrick O'Gara, James Cook, Patrick Welch and others followed, who were obliged to attend services at Tomah, some eighteen miles distant, but at that time was the nearest point visited by any priest. A few years later James Nolan, James Kerrigan, John Kerrigan and others formed a settlement in the vicinity of Ridgeville and soon after began to talk seriously of building a church.

In 1865 a church was erected, the same being attended by Father Quigley, then a resident priest at Mauston. Some few years later the congregation of Tomah and Ridgeville were both placed in charge of Father Durward, who took up his residence at the former place. During this period, Catholics had been settling rapidly around Wilton and their number so far increased that they also demanded a church and pastor. Father Durward, as well as the bishop, demurred on the grounds that the settlement was not of sufficient strength to justify the erection of a church or to be able to properly care for a resident pastor; however, there being some thirty families in all in 1875, a mission was formed and a small church built, which was attended by Father Durward for eight years. At the end of that time Father Durward was succeeded by Father Metzler, who objected so strongly to assuming the charge that it was transferred to the Rev. Father Keller, of Union Centre, by whom it was attended as a mission for two years. By this time the congregation had increased to some sixty families.

At the termination of Father Keller's pastorate the congregation of Union Centre, with the adjoining mission, were placed in charge of Father Herman, who did considerable in the way of improvements to the church building at Wilton. These improvements were hardly completed when the center portion of the building was struck by lightning and so badly injured that the necessary repairs almost equalled in extent the cost of an

entirely new structure. This work was, however, accomplished and in addition a new structure was added to the main building. In 1892, the mission at Wilton was placed in charge of Father Campbell, of Elroy, but for some two years prior to acquiring its own resident pastor, was attended by the Rev. Father Burns, who had been appointed assistant to Father Campbell. In July, 1895, the Rev. J. D. Mauning was appointed to the pastorate at Wilton. Upon arriving he found the church and its surroundings in a rather diplapidated condition, but through his persistent and energetic efforts the property was soon brought into a more satisfactory condition; buildings repaired and a parsonage built, all of which was completed without leaving any outstanding debts. In August, 1896, the church was struck by lightning and burned to the ground, but within a few days Father Mauning had a new building under way, mass in the meantime being celebrated in the school house. The corner stone of the church was laid on October 7, 1896, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Schwebach, who blessed the building January 14, 1897.

The Rev. D. J. Mauning acquired his classical education at Toronto, Canada. He took a full course of philosophy at the Grand Seminary, at Montreal, and completed his studies at St. Francis' Seminary, near Milwaukee, where he was ordained to the priesthood in June, 1893. He was appointed to the present charge as rector of St. John the Baptist's on July 25, 1895. The Rev. D. J. Mauning remained pastor of Wilton church until February, 1900.

The Rev. John C. McAteer, the present rector, was appointed to Wilton and Kendall January, 1900. On his arrival at Wilton, February 24, 1900, he found both church and parsonage in need of repairs. After strenuous efforts he succeeded in renovating both church and parsonage. The Rev. John C. McAteer was born at Loretto, Cambria county, Pa., March 27, 1858. He studied classics at St. Vincent's College at Beatty, Westmoreland county, Pa. He completed his theological studies at St. Francis' Seminary, in Milwaukee, Wis. He was ordained to the priesthood by the Rt. Rev. Kilian Flasch, D. D., in St. Joseph's Cathedral, at La Crosse, June 29, 1885. On June 29, 1910, he celebrated his silver jubilee as priest at Wilton, Wis.

Lutheran Church. A few Lutherans started the St. Paul's Lutheran church about forty years ago. Rev. A. T. Siegler, of Ridgeville, did the first missionary work at Wilton and vicinity. Services were conducted occasionally by the ministers located at Clifton until the Rev. John Liebell received charge of the two

congregations at Wilton and in the town of Wellington, in 1890, and was located at Wilton. He attended these congregations for three years and afterwards the Rev. Koehler for two years. The congregation consecrated their own church on the 11th of December, 1887, and built a parsonage in 1894. In January, 1905, the Rev. John Hering took charge at Wilton and town of Wellington, attending both congregations until the first of August, 1908, as from that date he took charge of Wilton alone, the congregation at Wellington having its own minister, which is the situation at this writing.

NORWALK.

Nestled in the hills in the southern part of the town of Ridgeville lies the beautiful little village of Norwalk. Situated in the midst of a very rich farming region and on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, its advantages as a mercantile center are very apparent.

The land upon which the village is located was originally owned by S. McGary and C. G. Hettman, portions of both farms being included in the original plat, Main street being the dividing line between the two farms. S. McGary was one of the first settlers in this village, or rather in the place where the village now stands, coming here from Norwalk, Ohio, in an early day, and when the village was organized he named it Norwalk in honor of his native village back in Ohio.

The real beginning of the growth of the village perhaps dates from the building of the Northwestern Railway in 1873, the first survey having been made that year and the road afterward constructed, building a depot in 1874, though for a time the present warehouse was used for that purpose. The early growth of the little village produced the necessity for educational facilities, and in 1875 a school house of moderate dimensions was built, and the first teacher secured was A. F. Brandt, who afterwards became county superintendent of schools, and is now connected with the State Public School for Dependant Children at Sparta. The schools more than kept pace with the growth of the village and in 1905 the high school was organized and a building built to accommodate it. This school has taken high rank among the high schools of the county; has been well managed; its teachers well selected, and has kept up with the times in educational work, a fact which is taken advantage of by pupils from the surrounding towns.

Among the first men to engage in business when the settle-

ment reached any size were D. M. Dolson, general store; John Crook, hardware merchant; Ellis Wood, blacksmith; Charles Ebert, harness maker; W. F. Horstman, furniture dealer; C. G. Hetman, lumber yard; Moul & Darwin, grain buyers; M. Goetz, wagon maker, and others.

In 1893, having arrived at a population and business importance which demanded it, the village was duly incorporated according to law and a set of village officers chosen, S. McGary being elected the first president; many men of prominence in the community have served upon the village board; its affairs have been well conducted and are in a prosperous condition. To endeavor to ascertain the exact time of the coming of a number of the earlier settlers has been very difficult, but the first physician to minister to the ills of humanity hereabout was Dr. Fischer; the first hotel which could be called such was opened and conducted for a time by John Horning, and called the Norwalk House, and the first drug store to supply the medicines prescribed by Dr. Fischer was conducted by Farner & Seibolt.

In 1903 the Norwalk State Bank was incorporated by M. Goetz, Henry Schell, J. P. Andres, C. H. Drier, William Schell, Fred Leutke, John Weibel, Ernest Pingel and H. L. Vieth. The institution has conducted a safe and conservative business under the able management of its president, M. Goetz, and enjoys a large clientage. As a mark of the prosperity and business growth of the village, a second bank was organized in 1907 by H. L. Vieth, Fred Leutke and Frank Wartman, known as the Farmers' State Bank, with a capital of $10,000, which has had a successful career from the start and serves a large number of depositors. The village has the usual number and variety of business enterprises found in a community of its size, has a population of 502, according to the last census, and is considered one of the solid and substantial business centers of the county.

CHAPTER XLV.

BERRY CULTURE.

Among the things which has brought fame and much prosperity to some parts of Monroe county and a subject which deserves more than passing mention is that of berry culture. From a small beginning in this matter has grown an immense business in several localities, especially in the vicinity of Sparta, where the largest interests are located, and around Tomah.

Perhaps the first man who conceived the idea of making a commercial business out of strawberries and bush berries was William Wells, "Uncle Billy," as he was familiarly known. It seems that his early attempts at growing strawberries for the market met with some success, though his methods were somewhat crude as to marketing the product. He secured cheap tin pails in which he shipped the berries, realizing a fair return on his ventures. He grew them extensively enough so that it was necessary for him to employ pickers. Perhaps the pioneer in the business of strawberry raising and shipping as a regularly organized business was Mr. E. W. Babcock, of Angelo. He was undoubtedly the first man to inaugurate the quart box as a container in which to get his produce to the market.

In the raising of bush berries George Hanchett, of LaFayette, was undoubtedly the pioneer in the western part of the county, and doubtless went into the business of raising blackberries as an industry prior to any one else in the county. He purchased of C. H. Hamilton, of Ripon, Wis., a stock of plants of the "American Briton" blackberry and started successfully to grow them for the market. Since then the large fruit farm developed by Mr. Hanchett and his son, William H. Hanchett, has become one of the large, if not the largest, of its kind in this part of the state.

Mr. Hamilton visited Sparta the winter after he sold the stock of blackberry sets to Mr. Hanchett, and lectured on the subject at a farmer's institute, going into the raising of small fruits quite thoroughly. M. A. Thayer, at that time in the banking business, and being previously interested in horticulture, became very much taken up with the subject, and the year following he

inspected the Hanchett farm and determined to go into the business. The result was the "Thayer Fruit Farm," which acquired a state-wide reputation, which was the result in a measure of the fact that considerable advertising was done and also to the system of "Thayer's Berry Bulletin," a series of articles issued by Mr. Thayer while president of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society.

The Thayer fruit farm was started in 1887 with the first year's planting of seventeen acres, including blackberries, raspberries and strawberries. It was demonstrated beyond all doubt that the soil and climate around Sparta and in other parts of the county was right for the conducting of this industry on a large scale. In 1891 the Thayer farm marketed over 5,000 cases of berries of all kinds, for which was received $7,074.44, and including the plants sold and the farm produce marketed brought the income of the farm to $8,846.76, yielding a net profit over all expenses of $4,346.76. But perhaps this farm, and it is referred to here as a sample of what was the result achieved by many others in a greater or less degree, reached its best productiveness in 1905, when there were under cultivation twenty-five acres of strawberries, twelve acres of raspberries, four and one-half acres of gooseberries, two acres of currants and eighteen acres of blackberries, and in that year over $4,000 worth of plants alone were sold.

As the years went by, this industry became firmly established, thousands of dollars worth of berries were marketed from different parts of the county. Around Sparta, especially, the industry had grown to such proportions that every year during berry season many commission firms in Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, St. Louis and other points sent their buyers here and at first when this system came into vogue these buyers were on the watch for loads of berry cases, a man with a good sized load was stopped in the street and the buyers bid for the load, the highest offer per case getting it. This system continued for a time until it seemed that the buyers were entering into a combination to control prices, which is of course the same old story, and it occurred to the fruit growers that they might handle their own product, eliminate some of the things that went for expense and get fair prices by finding their own market and conducting the business of selling the crops of the members of an association to greater advantage.

Growing out of this movement came the organization of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association, a pioneer organization of its

kind. On May 15, 1896, the articles of incorporation were perfected; as appears in them the organizers were C. E. Tobey, E. A. Richardson, Jesse D. Searles, E. W. Babcock, W. H. Hanchett, Alexander McIntyre, L. S. Fisher, C. G. Hettman and W. M. Bowler; the officers provided for in the articles were L. S. Fisher, president; W. H. Hanchett, vice president; W. M. Bowler, secretary, and C. G. Hettman, treasurer. The capital stock of the association was 150 shares at $2 each. Afterwards the articles were amended twice in this particular; in April, 1906, the capital stock was increased to 1,000 shares of $2 each, and again in February, 1907, to 3,000 shares of $2 each, making the capital stock $6,000. The advantage in membership to the fruit grower is the handling of his crop by the association without his being compelled to look after the selling, his product being delivered to the association and in due time his remittance reaches him. The association first commenced business in a wooden building which stood upon the site of the present building and had been used theretofore principally as an office for a lumber yard. The association acquired title to this property and the demands of the business increasing to such an extent it became necessary to build a building suitable for the purposes of the corporation, 1909 saw the completion of the fine building now owned and occupied by the association, built of solid brick on the plan of what is known as "slow fire" construction, with ample offices, store rooms and a basement with concrete floor under the entire building, making a very complete plant for the purposes of the business carried on. The association now does business the year around, handling vegetables, apples and small fruits in their season at wholesale.

The Sparta Fruit Growers' Association has attracted a large amount of attention from people interested in the fruit business and it has become a power in the business world in its line. The wise administration of its affairs in the past under such men as L. S. Fisher, its first president; W. H. Hanchett, the present presiding officer; J. W. Leverich, one of its directors, and E. A. Richardson, its most efficient secretary and general manager, has steadily increased the influence of the association and aided wonderfully in the development of the business of small fruit raising here and elsewhere. The volume of business transacted is very large; it seeks the best markets, successfully competes with the products of other parts of the country, and is a striking example of the benefits of co-operation when rightly conducted with business acumen and foresight.

CHAPTER XLVI.

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

The history of the two companies in this county belonging to the Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, is, of course, the history of the Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry in the Spanish War. While at intervals either Company L or Company K may have been on detached service for a short time, upon the whole the companies were with the regiment and participated with it in the campaign in Porto Rico. When the news was flashed over the wires that war had been declared by the United States against Spain, patriotic feeling was kindled all over the country and the excitement attending these times was very great in every town in which a military company was located. The call by the President for volunteers required three regiments of infantry from the state of Wisconsin and orders were at once wired to the three regiments then organized to prepare for war. It was necessary, of course, under the law, as it then stood, that each company and each individual in each company should volunteer, and when the call came to the companies of the Third Regiment about the 26th day of April, 1898, the companies, L and K, almost to a man volunteered and were ready to go to the front. On the night of the 27th and 28th of April orders were issued by telegraph by the governor ordering the Third Regiment to mobolize at Milwaukee on the following day, and the 28th of April found the Third Regiment complete and assigned to camp at the state fair grounds in Milwaukee, the various companies being quartered in the horse barns, which were very comfortable for this purpose. "Camp Harvey," as it was known, has many memories in the minds of those who were there; the anxious days preceding the physical examination, to know whether one would be accepted or rejected, the drills and parades, and the thousands upon thousands of people who came to see the soldier boys, all combined to make the two weeks of this camp one long to be remembered. On the 11th day of May, 1898, Capt. William L. Buck, of the United States Army, mustered into the service the Third Wisconsin Infantry and from that time forth it became the Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and it was the first regiment to be

mustered into the service of the United States from Wisconsin. Orders were received soon after to proceed to Chickamauga Park, near Chattanooga, Tenn., and on the morning of May 14th the first section of the special train containing the third battalion, headquarters, and staff left Camp Harvey, passing through the Soldiers' Home, where the old veterans were lined up on the lawn on each side of the track, truly a pathetic sight and one which affected every man who saw it. Down through Chicago into the state of Indiana, passing through historic battlefields in Tennessee, arriving at Chickamauga on the morning of the 16th of May, detrained Lytle, Georgia, the railroad station at the park, the regiment was assigned to camp ground on the Kelly Field and went into camp. The regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, First Division, First Army Corps, under the command of Brigadier General Andrew Burt; afterwards General Burt was sent South and Brigade General O. H. Ernest was assigned to the command of the brigade, which was later made up of the Second and Third Wisconsin and the Sixteenth Pennsylvania, although the brigade was first composed of the Third Wisconsin, Fifth Illinois and First Kentucky.

Several weeks were occupied at the camp waiting for the mobolization of other troops before proceeding to the front and the time was taken up with drills of all kinds, parades and reviews, in all of which the regiment received high praise from the corps commander, General Brooke, for its soldierly appearance and the personnel of the men. Orders came July 4th for the regiment to march to Ringgold, Ga., there to entrain and proceed South. On July 5th the march was taken up, the regiment arriving at Ringgold on the evening of that day, in connection with the Second Wisconsin, and was taken by three special trains to Charleston, S. C., and there quartered in large cotton warehouses on the sea front.

The Third Wisconsin held a dress parade soon after its arrival on Marion square, in front of the statue of Calhoun, and it was the first dress parade of Northern troops ever held in the city of Charleston. The people of Charleston evidently had become thoroughly reconciled to the results of the War of the Rebellion, for the troops everywhere met a hearty reception and it was an inspiring sight indeed when the regiment, dressed in its best, swung into the street leading to Marion square headed by Dana's magnificent Third Regiment Band playing "Dixie," to see the stars and stripes waving everywhere, out of the windows, and to hear the cheers of the people as the regiment swung

by. While at Charleston practice marches were ordered by General Wilson, the division commander, which wrought much harm to the health of the men. The hot nights in these large warehouses, with no air stirring, was not a good condition for sleeping and the men became jaded and were ordered upon these marches as some sort of a test, which both resulted disastrously; many men in all of the companies were overcome by the heat and fell by the roadside and afterward required considerable treatment and in some cases health was entirely shattered. Bad food, bad quarters and the hot days undoubtedly all combined to help produce this result; but it was a cruel thing to order such a march and one which was severely condemned, not only by the civil but by the military authorities. The editor cannot refrain from commenting, as a result of his experience, upon the inefficiency of the quartermaster's department in this campaign; often by political appointment some senator's son, who didn't know a side of pork from a can of beans, was appointed chief quartermaster commissary and spent his time swelling around in a new uniform while the men starved; for it is a fact, that right in the city of Charleston, during the ten days this regiment spent there, there were times when the men, in the midst of plenty, didn't have enough to eat.

Orders came at last to go to the front and reinforce General Shafter in Cuba. The "Obdam" steamed into port. Orders were issued to load the entire regiment with their horses in this boat, which was followed by the "Duchess," having on board the Second Wisconsin. The orders were changed, however, to go to Porto Rico and reinforce General Miles, instead of Cuba. The trip South cannot be called a delightful one, for here, more so than ever, was the inefficiency of the commissary department notable, for the men actually suffered for the want of food on the voyage.

On the morning of July 26th the "Columbia," one of Uncle Sam's warships, came racing around the high land of Porto Rico with the information that General Miles had landed at Guanico on the previous day and was waiting for the regiment. Grim and business like, indeed, was this warship, with its gray paint, and showing the marks received at the battle of Santiago. The next morning the "Obdam" arrived at Guanico, a most beautiful little harbor, which looked for all the world like a piece of stage setting with its luxuriant foliage rising out of the still waters of the bay. Orders were issued to capture the city of Ponce, farther

up the coast, the next morning, so that the regiment did not disembark.

On the morning of the 27th the "Obdam" steamed into the harbor of Ponce, having been preceded, however, by the Massachusetts battleship and the cruisers Gloucester and Dixie; and orders were issued to disembark, with the Third regiment leading the way, and capture the city. The harbor and surrounding territory was shelled by the gunboats, and the Third Wisconsin landed in lighters, without resistance. Detachments were dispatched here and there to hold strategic points, and the regiment took up its march to the city of Ponce, up the paved road, through the magnificent tropical scenery of this beautiful little island. Reaching the city they marched through paved streets, the city having water works and electric lights, much to the astonishment of the boys. They had not expected to see a modern city in this island. Arriving at the plaza amid the noisy acclaims of the inhabitants, who everywhere were frantic with joy, waving flags, embracing each other with many "viva Ameri cano." After a short halt the regiment marched out into a field west of the city and camped upon ground belonging, before that time, to the little King of Spain, and its first night on the foreign soil was spent sleeping under the blue sky for a camp.

The editor secured that day a copy of a native paper, published principally in the Spanish language, but having in one or two columns an account printed in quaint English of the landing of the American troops, which is herewith quoted.

An extract from the La Nueva Era, published at Ponce, Porto Rico, July 30, 1898, is as follows:

"On the 27th inst., at 2 p. m., a fleet approaching the port was signalled from the signal hill, and truly from all the roofs and points of vantage of the city could be seen three ships nearing our harbor at great speed, of which two were apparently transports and the other a tug. It did not take them long to come into port and anchor. After a while a boat was seen to leave the side of one of the ships bearing a white flag reached the shore shortly afterwards with an officer, who on landing bent his steps to the captain of the port's office in search of the military commander of the town for whom he had a despatch.

"The captain of the port answered him that he had no military jurisdiction and sent for the military commander, residing up town here, to take delivery of the despatch brought by said officer. At about this time a small volunteer force got into posi-

tion near the custom house and the two companies of the regulars, which on the first alarm of the approach of the American fleet had been ordered to the port, were stationed on the road leading from here to the harbor. With the latter forces came the late military commander of this district, Colonel Sanmartin.

"On the latter being informed that there was an American officer bearing, under flag of truce, a despatch for him, he replied that without direct authority from the governor general he could not receive it. On getting this reply the American officer informed the captain of the port that he would give half an hour's grace for the military commander to come and take delivery of the despatch.

"In the meantime Sanmartin had come up town and had a conference with the governor general by wire, laying before him the state of affairs. But as the hour fixed by the American officer was drawing to its close, and he threatened to return on board with the despatch undelivered, two members of the counsular body—Messrs. F. M. Toro, British vice consul, and P. J. Rosaly, vice consul of the Netherlands—went down to the port together with our mayor—Mr. R. U. Colom—and one of our citizens—Mr. P. J. Fournier—with the object of requesting an extension of the time fixed by the officer to await the reply of the governor general.

"It seems that the latter's answer to the military commander was that he should do his duty; by which, we suppose, he implied that resistance should be made, in spite of the immense superiority of the invading forces and of the fleet, which, by this time, had increased by the arrival of several vessels more. As the American commander grew impatient at the non-return of the first boat sent ashore, they sent another, bringing two officers and a squad of soldiers, who bore with them the American flag and two rockets for sigalling, we presume, in case of need. Said officers with the squad and flag advanced as far as the very door of captain of the port's office; but the British vice consul requested that the soldiers should withdraw to the sea shore, the officer with Old Glory, etc., remaining, however, at the door of the building. The consular and other officers entered the building. They were there received by the captain of the port, who, by the way, was dressed in a soiled white drill suit without any insignia to denote his rank. The German vice consul—Mr. H. C. Fritze—joined his colleagues of England and the Netherlands in their good offices in the matter, together with the American merchant, Mr. Lucas Valliviese.

"Said consuls began to work to bring about the surrender of the town (which had been demanded at discretion), in their desire to avoid bloodshed and damage to the town, as the Spanish forces were insignificant, compared with those of the United States and besides the Spaniards having no defensive works or artillery to answer the fire of the fleet. At about 10 p. m. it was rumored that an armistice had been arranged, in virtue of which the Spanish forces would evacuate the town and that the American troops would not land within a stipulated time to allow the former forces to get well on their way to Aibonito. It was reported that this arrangement was firm and the people began to treat more freely about the peaceful solution of the conflict. But unhappily their joy was of short duration as—about 1 a. m.—it began to be noised about that the governor general had deposed the military commander, Sanmartin, ordering him to give up the command to the lieutenant-colonel of the Civil Guards, instructing the latter to offer resistance to the invading forces.

"On this becoming known the alarm was great among all classes, and the exodus to the neighboring country, which had already begun in the afternoon and evening, was immense, approaching nearly to a panic. But the vice consuls continued their labors to obtain that the armistice arranged with Colonel Sanmartin by them should be respected and kept in good faith, and the representative of England and Germany protested against its being broken and brought to bear on the negotiations all the weight that their nations represent.

"The lieutenant-colonel of the Civil Guard on his part, seeing the impossibility of resistance to the powerful fleet of the enemy, which had been reinforced by several ships more, with the means he had at his disposal, decided at length to evacuate the town, retiring with all the forces under his command, by the road leading to the interior of the island.

"As soon as this decision was arrived at the retreat began, but not before attempting to set fire to the railroad station, in which they only succeeded in burning a few cars. But even after the retreat there was anxiety among the inhabitants, as it was reported that the powder magazine of the barracks would be blown up before the Spaniards left the town definitely; we are happy to say that this did not happen.

"The town was left in charge of the local first brigade, who undertook the duty of keeping order, but their services were not called upon that night, nor has been since, as not the slightest disturbance has taken place. Ponce gave proofs of its good sense

as usual. At daybreak the next morning a half dozen men of the American forces hoisted the Stars and Stripes on the custom house together with the headquarter's flag of the commander in chief. Later the flag was unfurled over the town hall.

"The landing of the troops began and were distributed about in accordance with instructions of the American commanders. The people welcomed the American forces as liberators and friends and with the greatest demonstrations of joy and heartiness.

"The commander of the expeditionary forces decided that the municipal and judicial authorities should remain at their post as well as the local police and the employees of the custom house, which later is in charge of Colonel Hill, appointed inspector of the port and customs. The American troops have entered this town with the greatest order and are fraternizing with the people. Said troops later relieved the fireman at guard duty at the city prison and other places.

"The political prisoners have been set at liberty and among them our friends Messrs. Santiago Geraldino, Rodulfo Figueroa, Jose Hilaria Roche and others. We heartily congratulate them all. The inhabitants that had gone into the country have gradually begun to return to town, in which the greatest order prevails.

"At the town hall there took place an incident worthy of mention. Mr. Figueroa, who had been just set free, went up to the Seasions hall and unslinging the portrait of the queen regent with the king and the crown which overtopped them, attempted to throw them over the balcony, saying: 'There go the remnants of Spanish domination.' But an American officer who was present interfered in a friendly way, requesting that said picture and crown should be given him as a historical memento of the occasion, which request was immediately granted."

Notice. "To this office has been brought a hat belonging to one of the guards of the army at present in the city. It is marked R. J. Bilie, Fort Wingate, N. M. We hold same at the disposal of said guard."

Colonel Sanmartin was in charge of the Spanish troops at the city of Ponce. At the time of the advance of the American troops he and his men fled along the military highway towards the northern part of the island, leaving the Spanish barracks, a fine large building, capable of housing a regiment, with all its furnishings, including the Spanish flags and some uniforms and equipments, and all of his own household furniture; afterwards Colonel Sanmartin was sentenced to death by a court martial for

not defending the city, but it was afterwards changed to life imprisonment. After a few days' stay in camp at the city of Ponce, where the regiment was fully equipped with new "Krag" rifles, orders were given to proceed to the front and early in the morning of the 7th of August the regiment started on its march to meet the enemy and arrived in front of Coamo on the evening of August 8th; outposts were thrown out, almost being in touch with the Spanish troops, Company K under Captain Warren being sent out to the front. It was important that this city be captured and a careful plan of campaign was laid out by General Ernest and the commanders of the Second and Third Wisconsin and Sixteenth Pennsylvania, comprising the brigade. To understand the battle of Coamo a description of the city and surrounding country is necessary; the land is very hilly along the entire south coast and towards the west it becomes mountainous. Coamo is eight miles from the seashore and is situated in a pocket of high hills; these hills are a guard to the city, being covered with ravines and cliffs which in many places are impassable. An advance on the city by any other way than the roads leading to the town is next to impossible; three roads lead toward the city; from the southwest is the San Juan road leading from Ponce, from Coamo to San Juan; this road takes a northeasterly direction from the city towards Aibonito; from the south is a road leading from St. Isabel, the road having been named after the town; on all of these roads the Spanish government had built many culverts and bridges to cover ravines and streams; the work was done with great care and the bridges were very substantial; the roads are all macadamized and are like boulevards; on the outskirts southwest of the city is a block house situated between the San Juan and St. Isabel roads. From the block house the Spaniards had a clear range of the valley leading towards the city and in this block house the enemy was lodged and from there the Spanish had shut off former attempts to enter the city. Company K, as has been stated, and Company G of Wausau were posted on the high hills commanding the San Juan road and had a full view of the block house and the city; all night a vigilant watch was kept on the Spanish, but they made no demonstration. The commanders were given their instructions for march on the day previous. At four o'clock in the morning the troops were awakened, men were ordered to take their guns and belts, haversacks and three meals and their ponchos, leaving the rest of the equipments behind. It was yet dark and at 4:30 breakfast was served; the men

were in high spirits, only the sick were sad; trouble was brewing and at last we were within touch of the enemy; the Second and Third Wisconsin were held back and the Sixteenth Pennsylvania was sent by a detour to get in the rear of the city and there attack the enemy should they retreat; all the American forces had camped before the city on the San Juan road two miles southwest of it. At 5:30 in the morning the Sixteenth Pennsylvania had started for its position and after a wait until six o'clock the Second and Third were ordered to move; taking a position in the valley near the San Juan road, Lancaster's battery had from there a clean sweep of the block house and also commanded the range for firing into the city. The Second and Third Wisconsin supported the battery on the left, the Second being nearest to it. General Ernest and staff had taken a position on the hills where Captain Warren and the Tomah men had acted as pickets during the night and from here he directed Colonel Moore where to move his regiment; he was to take the Third to the south of the town and advance by way of the St. Isabel road, cutting off all escape from that direction. Captains Warren and Abraham and their companies had been left behind on outpost duty, and Captain Hommel, of Neillsville, with his company guarded the camp at Juana Diaz, so that the Third only had nine companies in the field. Major Richards had two companies of his battalion left, Company D of Mauston, Captain Turner and Company F of Portage, Captain Lee, and was assigned to lead the advance. Major Kircheis followed with the Second Battalion consisting of Company B, Captain Schultz, La Crosse; Company M, Captain Peck, La Crosse; Company L, Captain McCoy, Sparta, and Major George with the First Battalion, composed of Company E, Captain Ballard, Eau Claire; Company C, Captain Kiney, Hudson; Company I, Lieutenant Smith, West Superior; the Second Regiment followed to the left; the movement began at 6:30; the battery had taken its position and Major Richards and Lieutenant Colonel Saloday of the Second sent out their skirmishes. They stretched out toward the hills covering nearly a mile and cautiously the advance on the hills south of the town began. At exactly five minutes past seven the first shell from Lancaster's battery was fired and at the third shot the range of the block house, having been gotten, it was set on fire. With the advance began the opening of fire by the Spaniards and the Wisconsin troops were for the first time engaged in battle; the men in the advance skirmish line crept through the wet grass which was high enough to almost hide them from view; the regiment fol-

lowed as close behind as was deemed safe without exposing them to an ambush.

The skirmishers and their squads had gone about 60 yards when General Ernest moved from the hill in which he had stationed himself and went over to the battery. It was then seven o'clock and it was decided that the Pennsylvania regiment had by that time arrived in rear of the city. With the opening of fire by the battery the battle became lively and when the block house was set on fire by shells the Spaniards retreated along the road back into the city; while the battery was shelling the block house Major Richards had advanced the skirmishers towards the east and was within range of the hills on which the Spanish outposts were stationed. Thoroughly aroused at this time by the boldness of the Americans in shelling the block house the Spaniards opened fire on the skirmishers and the bullets whistled thick and fast over the heads of Captain Turner's men; but they were powerless to return the fire, because under the cover of the heavy brush the Spaniards could not be seen; with the retreat of the Spanish troops the advance of the Second and Third Wisconsin, which up to this time had been comparatively smooth, now became difficult; ravines, rivers, groves with deep underbrush and other obstructions were soon encountered, scarcely had one obstruction been overcome than another was met with; then came the river and the bluffs, both sides of which were so steep that for a time it was thought impossible to reach the other side. The block house had long before been deserted and now the infantry fire of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania was heard. The advance skirmishers of the Third climbing the bluffs with the guns in one hand and with the other holding on to vines that hung over the cliffs, to hold themselves not knowing what awaited them below, nor did they care; once below the river was waded and a march through a cornfield brought them to the St. Isabel road leading to the town where the Second Regiment and Second Battalion of the Third Regiment were coming along the road. Adjutant Holway and Major George leading the First Battalion on the other side of the river; scouts were sent out to see the effect the artillery fire had; the terrible result of it was seen; on reaching the river both regiments crossed the stream, the Third taking the lead and up the road toward the city where the Spanish had tried to blow up several bridges, but in their haste had not been successful. The Wisconsin troops were now within a mile of the town and natives came out to meet them; word came that the Spaniards had deserted the place and were

being engaged by the Pennsylvania regiment on the outskirts towards the west. Tired and weary, yet the Badger men hurried on, still spoiling for a fight. As the Third entered the town many natives came out waving white flags, they cheered the Americans, and it was a repetition of the entrance into Ponce; in the streets Spanish entrenchments were encountered which were made by digging a ditch and piling up bags of sand and in some instances iron water pipes and sewer pipes; the barracks were soon reached where the natives were found in control, tearing everything that was Spanish to pieces, showing their utmost hatred for Spain. Stores were closed, many merchants had fled and the town was on the very verge of starvation, the Spanish soldiers had taken all they needed and the country folks had not brought any eatables to town for over a week, being afraid of the soldiers.

The Third Regiment flag was raised over the town, and soon word came that the Pennsylvania regiment had routed three hundred Spanish regulars; the Spanish troops, thoroughly frightened by the advance of the Third Regiment, had attempted to flee towards the north and had run directly into the trap set for them; a sharp but decisive skirmish engagement in the brush took place at which Major Marlinez, commander of the Spanish troops made a gallant effort to hold his position flying up and down his line like a mad man, thereby making a target of himself which soon resulted in his being shot from his horse, pierced in many places. The Spaniards lost six killed, twelve wounded and one hundred and fifty prisoners and about one hundred and thirty-five Spaniards escaped by taking to the hills and later some of them surrendered.

The regiment took possession of the city and established a camp on the military road about a mile beyond the city limits; it was necessary to hold a large bridge over which the Spanish had retreated up the road, leading to Aibonito pass where the Spaniards had their stronghold and immediately Major Kircheis was sent to the front about four miles to hold this bridge having under his command Company D of Mauston, Captain Turner; Company F, Portage, Captain Lee; Company L, Sparta, Captain McCoy; Company M, La Crosse, Captain Peck. The enemy held this pass which led through the Sierra Del Sur Mountains and were thoroughly intrenched on three hills which commanded the pass and the road leading down the mountain; Major Kircheis occupied the position beyond the bridge and threw outposts into the hills covering the position thoroughly and on August 12

Lancaster's battery was ordered to the front to shell the enemy as it was deemed impossible for infantry to make a charge upon the hills in order to capture the Spanish position; the road which led toward their outposts was almost a crest of a mountain, and before the artillery could get into position it came into full view of the Spanish outposts and also of those behind the entrenchments. The battery as it advanced up the road was fired upon by the Spanish with their artillery, which seemed to be rather an obsolete kind, but which threw shells more or less effectively. The Spaniards changed their range from the battery and directed their fire toward the infantry, who were holding their line, all Wisconsin men, as before stated. About one dozen shells were thrown when a shell burst in the midst of Captain McCoy's Company L, which was stationed on the hill sloping toward the outposts headquarters, and Corporal Swanson, Company L, and a private of the same company were killed by the explosion, Corporal Yanke and Corporal Bunce were wounded. The artillery was now under a heavy fire from the enemy. Three pieces were stationed in the field below the road and opened fire on the entrenchments. General Wilson and staff then arrived and directed the infantry to cease firing on account of the long range, but the Spaniards continued to shoot at the Portage and La Crosse troops; when the battery had fixed its distance the cannonade on the earthwork soon had its effect and whole companies of Spanish infantry could be seen leaving and after an hour's firing directly on the position held by the Spanish field-pieces they were compelled to retire. During the time that the artillery was firing the Spanish had also continued to shell the infantry stationed along the hills; finally everything seemed to be silenced and the guns of the battery were ordered to move further up the road with Company F under Captain Lee as support.

As the horses and cannon dashed toward the enemy's position followed by the Portage troops they were surprised by a storm of bullets from a company of Spanish infantry and several shells from the hills, showing that the Spaniards were still in full possession of the position. The Portage company with the battery were obliged to fall back under a heavy fire which, however, caused only a few slight wounds, and the artillery then being out of ammunition, they were obliged to withdraw from the field. The Spanish had left their entrenchments and concealed themselves in a banana field; it was almost impossible to locate them at first as they used smokeless powder with the Mauser rifles.

They retreated into the hills, however, and the engagement ended with the Spanish still in their position and nothing gained for the American troops.

General Wilson determined to attack Aibonito pass by going through the mountains; a mule pack train was sent up to the Third Infantry and it was ordered to prepare for an early march through the mountains by way of the trail in an endeavor to drive the enemy out of Aibonito and capture the pass and the city. Ammunition and two day's rations were issued ready for the start at daylight. Colonel Moore called his officers together and stated that the Third would lead the assault up the mountain and that it would be the hardest piece of work yet assigned to the regiment and dismissed them with the statement, made in that positive way he had, of "We will take that pass or there will be lots of room at mess for those who come back." An hour before daylight bugles rang out the reveille, the regiment had its breakfast, packed its packs, ammunition and rations, filed out into the road and awaited the order to start on their perilous march. While waiting for the command to move a horseman was seen rushing up the road from the city, where the military telegraph station was located, waving in his hand a despatch, which was found to be news from the War Department that the peace protocal had been signed and that officially the fighting was over. While it was fortunate and saved the lives of many score of brave Wisconsin boys, still the news came as a disappointment, for the fighting blood of the Old Third was up, and on the face of every man was seen a determination to do his full share, whatever the result might have been.

After this, white flags were put out by both the Spanish and American troops, and the weary routine of camp life and waiting began, with nothing to do but establish outposts, with occasional drills for the sake of the health of the men. Still the malarial fever began to get its grip on these Wisconsin boys and the brigade hospital became larger than the brigade camp, and here is given two sets of figures. While they are not official, they were gathered from a reliable source and are taken from a little book published by Emanuel Rossiter, being a history of Company I of the Third Regiment: On September 13th, out of the strength of the regiment there were 126 men sick in hospital, 200 sick in quarters and 128 sick in other places, making a total of 454; and to show the increase of this terrible disease, just six days after that, on the 19th of September the reports show 138 men sick in hospital, 413 men sick in quarters, 148 men sick

in other places, 18 left for home invalided, 12 men died in Porto Rico, a total of 729. These were dark days indeed for the Third, for in August the Second Wisconsin was sent home but the Third, being still considered efficient, was held for whatever duty might arise and the dreary routine of waiting pulled heavily on the spirits of officers and men; but the Third exhibited its sterling worth and when the order came to march from Coamo through to San Juan, there to take part in the formal exercises of raising the flag over the island of Porto Rico, great was the rejoicing, and upon the morning that the march began the editor, sitting on his horse beside Lieutenant McDonald, a surgeon of the regular army detailed for duty with the Third Regiment, watched the men as they swung out of the field and into the road, men who were indeed men in looks, some of them with lined faces, who had enlisted a few months before as mere boys, and Lieutenant McDonald said after the last company had gone by: "There are 600 men which you cannot kill with a club."

The brigade, consisting of the Sixteenth Pensylvania and the Second Wisconsin, reached Cayey on the 3d of October after a three days' march and here on the 4th orders were received to return to Ponce to take transports for home; and returning over the same road, reaching Ponce a few days later, where the regiment was very comfortably quartered in camps left by a regular regiment of infantry which was ordered away, the tents being left standing. Here the men rested for several days visiting the city, busily engaged in picking up souvenirs to carry home, waiting for the transports to arrive. On October 20th the "Manitoba," a fine ship, came into the harbor at Ponce and the regiment was ordered to pack up, go aboard and start for home.

True to its record, the Third, instead of straggling down to the harbor, as had been the case with a regiment or two which had gone home before, packed its baggage, swung into column and, headed by the pitiful remnant of Dana's once famous Third Regiment band, marched proudly through the city with the same old swing, cheered mightily by their old friends, the First Kentucky, which had arrived on the island, and the Nineteenth Regular Infantry. Quickly they loaded everything on the "Manitoba," laid in the harbor that night for the sole reason, as was told, that it was Friday night and no sailor would move on that night, and the next day, October 22d, started the journey for home. This proved to be a record breaking passage of four and one-half days, and on the evening of the 26th of October the twinkling lights along the Jersey shore were greeted with great

shouts of happiness, for at last, after many trials, it looked like home. Held in quarantine that night, the ship steamed into the harbor the next morning, where it was met by Governor Scofield himself, who came on board the vessel and had words of great praise for the conduct of the regiment. On the 28th arrangements were fully completed for the regiment and three special trains of sleepers started for home on the West Shore railroad, and on their way stopped at Milwaukee where a loyal banquet was served to every officer and man by the city of Milwaukee, and here the troops were distributed, going to their various home towns.

Later on they were mustered out by companies along in January, 1899, being visited at their home stations for that purpose by regular army officers detailed to muster out the companies and pay them in full. The total strength of the regiment was 1,353, of whom two men were killed in action, three wounded and forty-one died of disease. The colors carried by the regiment during the Spanish war are now at Madison in the capitol building in the case with flags of the Rebellion. The regiment was reorganized in a few months afterwards with Orlando Holway as its colonel and is now and has been ever since a part of the National Guard, in which Companies L and K have made good records.

CHAPTER XLVII.

THE MILITARY COMPANIES.

COMPANY K.

In 1883, early in the year, Col. George Graham, believing that the time was ripe for the forming of an independent military company, with the view to have it eventually mustered into the Wisconsin National Guard, started a movement which resulted in the organization of a company of about fifty young men. They had no money, no arms and no uniforms. The latter were soon supplied by the individual members of the company, who worked and earned money with which to procure a suit consisting of a cap, blouse and trousers of blue. Upon application to the adjutant general a set of old muskets was issued to the company and some old-fashioned belts. They had no armory, but the firemen agreed to let the organization use its hall, which was very small, for meeting purposes and most of the drilling was done out of doors in the summer months. Colonel Graham was captain, Charles K. Erwin, first lieutenant, and John Richards, second lieutenant. Faithful work brought its reward, for early in 1884 the opportunity came and the adjutant general deeming the company sufficiently instructed, issued an order that it be mustered into the Wisconsin National Guard.

On the 28th of May, 1884, Capt. J. W. Curran, as officer on the governor's staff, mustered the company into the Third Regiment as Company K. It being the custom, however, at that time to give each company a name, the "Tomah Guards," was adopted as the name of the organization. It was initiated into military life by participating in the camp of the regiment at Mauston during the summer of 1884 and has, of course, attended every camp of the regiment held since.

McCaul's hall was rented for an armory and the company used that for a number of years until the old skating rink farther down the street was secured. This was fitted up and used as an armory and public hall. This building had been purchased by the Helping Hand Society in 1887 and the company acquired it from them.

In July, 1896, the company having acquired some means, in order to have a civil organization which could own property and conduct the business affairs connected with such ownership, was organized into a corporation named the Tomah Guard Armory Association, E. Battles, Irving E. Jones and R. A. Richards being the incorporators. Every member of Company K, Third Regiment Wisconsin National Guard, is a member of this corporation as soon as enlisted and holds his membership until discharged; a member who has served for six years in the company thereby becomes a life member of the association.

This association secured a valuable lot opposite the old Sherman House and erected the present armory building, which was at the time considered a model for its purpose; the society went heavily in debt, but with the passing of the years the revenue derived from the building, which is nicely fitted up with a stage and good scenery, and is now the only opera house in the city, and the armory fund furnished by the state to the company, together with profits from entertainments, have cut down the indebtedness very materially and in a few years the association will be free from debt and the owner of a very valuable property. The company has always maintained a high standing in the companies of the state, with the exception of two or three years when it dropped in general standing; and at the breaking out of the Spanish war sixty-seven out of the sixty-eight officers and men volunteered for that service, and we here give the names of all the men who went into the company, both at the first call and those recruited later, taken from the original muster-out roll of the company in that war:

Capt. Winfield W. Warren, First Lieut. Alva S. Goodyear, Second Lieut. Irving E. Jones, First Sergt John I. Bigelow, Q. M. Sergt. Glenn W. Graham, Sergts. Oscar W. Mick, John McKane, H. Arthur Clark, John C. Flood; Corporals Ned Lombard, William H. Wise, Bert Trowbridge, George J. Kuckuck, C. Wallace McPherson, Charles F. Myer, Claude R. Sowle, Lester F. Pennewell, Claude B. Wells, Parker Moseley, Waren D. Jones, Christie H. Smith; Musicians Charles K. Wright and Edward J. Peacor; Artificer Ernest Pincel, Wagoner Alfred Harp; privates: Henry H. Austin, George R. Alverson, Alvin E. Baumgarten, Edward A. Baumgarten, Charles Bohn, Max P. Curtius, Herman O. Conrad, Max Case, Jason A. Dewey, Lee R. Dewey, Hans Folson, Andrew Flood, Leroy W. Ferdon, Ransom E. Gove, Lester E. Getman, Fred W. Heeler, Millard H. Hammond, Thomas J. Johnson,

Bennie Lapp, William Lenz, Herbert E. Logan, Bert A. Lee, George McLean, Ernest A. Miller, Arthur D. Miller, John Mick, William Mullenberg, Henry McCauley, Brice McMullen, Henry M. Montgomery, Adolph Nelson, Walter Newsome, Arthur H. Otto, Oscar Paley, John Palmer, Luvern Reynolds, William H. Root, Albert Reich, John C. Schueman, Frank J. Sauer, William H. Sauer, Harold Stevens, Edwin F. Smith, Orson Shearer, Herman Schultz, Dave W. Scruby, Edward R. Wells, Harry M. Warren, George H. Williams, Thomas E. White.

The following joined the company as recruits on the dates named: Charles Armstrong, June 18, 1898; Harry B. Alexander, June 18, 1898; Daniel J. Adam, June 18, 1898; Emil Bickel, June 18, 1898; August Capelle, June 18, 1898; Oscar Emery, June 18, 1898; Otto C. E. Franz, June 18, 1898; James W. Gordon, June 18, 1898; Ralph P. Johnson, June 18, 1898; Lee H. Jones, June 18, 1898; Dwell P. Jackson, June 18, 1898; James Larson, June 18, 1898; Charles T. Leonerd, June 15, 1898; Edgar Lea, June 17, 1898; Gustave W. Marquart, June 18, 1898; Frank Middleman, June 18, 1898; August Mitchell, June 18, 1898; Homer Meloy, June 18, 1898; James Murphey, June 17, 1898; Charles J. Peterson, June 27, 1898; Joseph Pelon, June 18, 1898; Arthur L. Patterson, June 18, 1898; John W. Reynolds, June 18, 1898; Mett Rose, June 18, 1898; Elex Roscovius, June 18, 1898; Frederick R. Skogland, June 18, 1898; Albert J. Siebert, June 18, 1898; George H. Terry, June 18, 1898; Lorenzo Van Voorhees, June 18, 1898.

Discharged. Frederick S. Barrows, corporal, September 11, 1898, at Coamo, P. R. Charles E. Butters, promoted to regiment chaplain, commissioned October 1, 1898.

Transferred. William F. Fethenhire, transferred to hospital corps by S. O. No. 5, headquarters First Army Corps, at Chickamauga Park, Ga., June 23, 1898. Arthur J. Ratcliffe, transferred to hospital corps, S. O. No. 5, First Army Corps, June 23, 1898. Olaf Thuleen, detached from company and attached to band at Chickamauga Park, June 1, 1898. Adolph W. Pellants, detached from company and attached to band at Chickamauga Park, June 1, 1898.

Died of Disease. Paul Curtius, died of typhoid fever at Charleston, S. C., August 9, 1898. Oscar Zimmerman, died of typhoid fever at Coamo, Porto Rico, October 15, 1898.

Maj. R. A. Richards was mustered into the service as major and commanded the Third Battalion of the regiment.

William R. McCaul was mustered into the service as sergeant-major of the Second Battalion and afterwards promoted to regimental sergeant-major.

The following is the official record of the company during the Spanish war, as recorded by Captain Warren:

The company was organized at Tomah, Wis., by Capt. W. W. Warren and mustered into service at Camp Harvey, Wis., by Capt. William L. Buck, May 11, 1898. Left Camp Harvey, Wis., May 14, 1898, by rail; arrived at Camp Thomas, Ga., May 16, 1898. Left Camp Thomas July 5th. Marched to Ringgold, Ga., thence by rail to Charleston, S. C., where it arrived July 6th. Embarked on transport, the "Obdam," July 20th; left Charleston for Porto Rico July 21st; arrived off Guanica, P. R., July 27th. Landed at Ponce, P. R., July 28th. On outpost duty July 29th. Provost guard Ponce August —. Marched out of Ponce August 7th as advance guard of brigade. Performed outpost duty August 8th. Rear guard August 9th. Second Lieutenant Jones and twenty men support for battery at battle of Coamo. October 2d marched to Aibonito; October 3d marched to Cayey; camped at Cayey October 4th to 6th. October 6th marched to Aibonito; October 7th marched to Coamo; October 8th marched to Juana Diaz; October 9th marched to Ponce. Camped near Ponce October 10th to 21st. October 21st embarked on board transport "Manitoba." Left harbor of Ponce October 22d for New York. Arrived in New York harbor October 26. Landed at West Shore railroad dock October 28th. Left by rail for Milwaukee October 28th. Arrived there October 30th. Left Milwaukee by rail, arriving at Tomah, Wis., same date. On furlough to date of muster out. The company was mustered out January 13, 1899.

After the close of the Spanish American War the Third Regiment was reorganized and Company K, in common with other companies of the regiment, went back into the state service; the company was reorganized May 2, 1899, and took its old place in the regiment.

The company has since maintained its reputation as one of the best all-around companies in the state and demonstrated that fact decisively by winning the "Pfister Trophy" in 1904, this being a trophy for the best all-around company and competed for each year.

Here is given a complete list of the commissioned officers of the company with their service before, during and since the Spanish American War.

Captains. George Graham, May 29, 1884, resigned November 30, 1888. R. A. Richards, December 14, 1888, promoted major October 19, 1897. W. W. Warren, October 19, 1888, volunteered in U. S. service May 11, 1898. A. S. Goodyear, December 30, 1899, resigned April 28, 1903. W. W. Warren, April 20, 1903, to rank December 20, 1902, resigned February 15, 1905. A. E. Winter, February 15, 1905, resigned April 30, 1907. M. P. Curtius, June 14, 1907, resigned November 2, 1908. C. R. Sowle, December 20, 1908.

First Lieutenants. C. K. Erwin, May 29, 1884, resigned January 18, 1886. Louis Schalle, January 19, 1886, promoted battalion adjutant July 19, 1895. W. W. Warren, July 19, 1895, promoted. A. S. Goodyear, October 19, 1897, volunteered U. S. service May 11, 1898. I. E. Jones, January 8, 1900, resigned September 1, 1900. W. W. Warren, September 24, 1900, promoted. O. M. Mick, January 30, 1903, resigned March 9, 1904. A. E. Winter, May 7, 1904, promoted. C. R. Sowle, June 9, 1907, promoted. E. R. Wells, December 20, 1908.

Second Lieutenants. John Richards, May 29, 1884, resigned July 2, 1885. Louis Schalle, July 2, 1885, promoted. Hubert C. Powers, January 19, 1886, resigned September 5, 1887. R. A. Richards, September 5, 1887, promoted. Luman C. Warriner, December 14, 1888, resigned April 25, 1890. W. W. Warren, May 16, 1890, promoted. A. E. Winter, July 19, 1895, resigned January 19, 1897. J. G. Graham, January 25, 1897, resigned July 28, 1897. A. S. Goodyear, August 18, 1897, promoted. I. E. Jones, November 30, 1897, volunteered U. S. service May 11, 1898. J. I. Bigelow, January 8, 1900, resigned August 31, 1900. O. M. Mick, November 14, 1900, promoted. Bert Trowbridge, January 30, 1903, resigned December 12, 1905. E. R. Wells, June 9, 1907, promoted. C. H. Wiklund, December 20, 1908.

THE SPARTA RIFLES.

In 1883 the Third Regiment, far from being the organization it is now, held an encampment in the city of Sparta; in those days soldiering in the National Guard was a good deal of a picnic and the custom was in vogue of holding encampments at different towns within the territory of the regiment; the encampment at Sparta was the first regular encampment as a regiment, and naturally the presence of the companies with a regimental band, the drills, parades and ceremonies aroused a military spirit in the community, although before that some kind of an independent organization had been maintained; through the efforts

of many of the good citizens the company was recognized and was mustered into the Wisconsin National Guard September 28, 1883, and given the designation of Company I, with John J. Esch, now congressman from this district, as its first captain. The company was maintained at a very good standard in membership drill and discipline for a number of years, but during the term of Gen. Charles King as adjutant-general, owing to lack of interest, there being at that time strong efforts made in other towns in the regimental territory to get into the Guard; the company was mustered out of the state service in 1895.

During the existence of the company, on March 9, 1889, a committee consisting of D. W. Cheney, Frank L. French and Timothy O. Thorbus selected and bought two lots of William Kerrigan and two lots of E. W. Robie on East Oak street, sold stock in an association formed for that purpose and erected the present armory, a brick building 65 by 130 feet in dimensions. One of the lots purchased was afterwards sold to W. C. Hoffman. Company I had two disastrous fires which burned up the buildings the company had theretofore been occupying as an armory, one of them being an old roller skating rink which the company bought.

The commissioned officers of this company with the date of their commissions were as follows:

Captains. John J. Esch, September 28, 1883; D. W. Cheney, August 16, 1887; T. O. Thorbus, December 14, 1888; B. O. Raymond, November 15, 1889; John H. Saxe, January 8, 1894; William H. Van Antwerp, January 2, 1895.

First Lieutenants. Frank F. Oster, September 28, 1883; T. D. Bleecher, October 11, 1885; T. O. Thorbus, September 13, 1886; B. O. Raymond, December 14, 1888; William A. Dickinson, November 15, 1889; Oscar S. Blakeslee, October 31, 1890; Frank L. French, June 17, 1892; William H. Van Antwerp, January 8, 1894; William Foss, January 2, 1895.

Second Lieutenants. T. D. Bleecher, September 28, 1883; Timothy O. Thorbus, November 13, 1885; John Saxe, September 13, 1886; B. O. Raymond, May 18, 1888; William A. Dickinson, December 14, 1888; Oscar S. Blakeslee, November 15, 1889; Frank L. French, October 31, 1890; John Saxe, June 17, 1892; Fred M. Foster, January 8, 1894; Fred L. Schaller, January 2, 1895.

COMPANY L.

The mustering out of Company I came as a shock to the citizens of Sparta and steps were almost immediately taken to

organize another company among the patriotic young men of the community.

On November 15, 1895, an agreement was signed by seventy-one men which provided that the signers would become members of a military company to be stationed at Sparta and become a part of the National Guard; this was done in pursuance of the assurance of Adjutant-General King that at the first opening in the regiment, provided Sparta maintained an independent organization, equipment being furnished by the state, and it was brought up to the standard required by the regulations, it would be mustered into the National Guard. The provisional company was at once organized and went to work in earnest. The efforts of this organization were soon rewarded; one of the two companies at Eau Claire having fallen below the standard required was mustered out and the Sparta company took its place in the regiment, being mustered in by General King on the fifteenth day of July, 1896, as Company L. The occasion was made memorable by the presence of a large audience of Sparta people and many notables, civil and military.

The selection of the proper officers was somewhat of a problem, and Robert B. McCoy was induced to take the captaincy, although he was without any previous military experience; but his well known executive ability coupled with the energy for which he was noted gave promise that he would be a good company commander and the estimate was not wrong. Under his command, assisted by his able lieutenants, Frank L. French and John P. Rice, the company forged to the front and has always held a high place among the National Guard companies.

It just got into the state service in time to get thoroughly organized, participate in an encampment or two when the opportunity came for active service in the Spanish American War. Its members with few exceptions volunteered for the service, and here follows the roll as taken from the official records of Company L, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry:

Capt. Robert B. McCoy; First Lieut. Frank L. French; Second Lieut. John B. Schneller; Milon R. Gould, first sergeant; Clark S. McCoy, quartermaster-sergeant; sergeants, Silas M. Lewis, Frank J. Schneller, Arthur L. Hollenbeck, Charles A. Perham; corporals, August Yanke, Fred V. Burrows, Ray Palmer, George Esch, Theodore Hanson, George W. King; musicians, Frank E. Frazier and Harry N. Kurtzman; wagoner, John H. Van Kirk; artificer, William D. Allen; privates, Albert Anderson, Gardner E. Bacon, Elbert J. Brooks, August F. Becker, James R. Boyle,

George J. Bunce, William B. Carrigan, James Davis, Henry E. Davis, William L. Davis, George E. Davenport, Arthur DeGroff, John B. Edwards, Evan S. Evans, Thomas Finn, Ole Gustad, Jr., Bjurne Gustad, Ulysses G. Gilbert, H. A. Hanson, Andrew L. Harr, Henry C. Heitman, Olaf C. Howard, Chauncey Hutson, Frank L. Hubbard, Albert Hiles, H. Clay Hogue, Mark J. Jewett, John H. Jackson, Clarence E. Kenyon, Homer A. Landt, George A. Lowry, Earl Lucas, Amiel N. Loberg, Gustave C. Link, Nathan C. Markham, John McAuliffe, Charles L. McArthur, Edmond O. Gillis, Lewis Navotny, John F. Nolan, Peter B. Nolan, Frank B. Nichols, Evander Noble, Edward M. Perham, Frank E. Perham, George W. Paul, Lester I. Putman, Milton E. Putman, Walter B. Phelps, John J. Selke, Henry J. Selke, Oscar R. Swanson, John C. Shattuck, Ernest J. Servis, Bert Smith, Adelbert W. Thurston, James Van Kirk, North Vice, Fred J. Vought, Henry A. Waste, Roy L. Ware, Herbert E. Webster, Perl J. Wilcox, Henry G. Wilcox, Fred W. Yanke.

Pursuant to special orders First Army Corps, dated June 8, 1898, Lieut. Frank L. French, battalion recruiting officer, returned to Sparta and enlisted the following recruits and sent them to Camp Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Ga., June 15, 1898:

William H. Ackerman, Edgar Abbott, Orin Brist, Clarence Chase, Olaf Erickson, Martin Flaig, George Gamon, Ernest Gamble, Harley A. Gunn, Anton O. Hagen, W. N. Hubbell, W. L. Hubbell, John Houghtalling, Albert Isaacs, Ossian R. Link, Miner E. Moyer, Ned Olson, Anton Olson, Harley B. Oaks, Charles A. Preston, Aaron E. Russell, John A. Smith, Jerry Sullivan, Frank A. Seymour, Henry Schell, Lloyd Sines, Charles B. Stolts, John C. Tester and John E. Williams.

During the term of service of the company several changes took place in the commissioned and noncommissioned officers. Captain McCoy resigned and came home under date of October 13, 1898, and First Lieut. Frank L. French was commissioned captain to rank from that date and was assigned to the command of the company; John B. Schneller was promoted to first lieutenant October 13, 1898, and Milon R. Gould was commissioned second lieutenant on the same date; these officers were mustered out holding the ranks named, and the noncommissioned officers at the muster out were Clark McCoy, quartermaster-sergeant; sergeants, Frank J. Schneller, August Yanke, Theodore J. Hanson, Fred V. Burrows; corporals, George W. King, Jason P. Williams, James Roy Boyle, Frank E. Perham, John D. Smith,

Frank B. Nichols, John F. Nolan, Ossian R. Link, New Olson, Clarence E. Kenyon. Musician, artificer and wagoner the same as mustered in.

Discharged by Order. Corp. Ray Palmer, September 29, 1898, per cablegram Secretary of War. Pvt. Milton E. Putman, Chickamauga Park, Ga.

Transferred. Pvt. Albert L. Miller to Hospital Corps, Ponce, August 5, 1898. Pvt. James Davis to Hospital Corps, Chickamauga Park, Ga., June 28, 1898. Pvt. Edmund McGillis to Regiment Band, January 2, 1899. Pvt. Earl S. Lucas to Hospital Corps, June 28, 1898. Pvt. Arthur DeGroff to Signal Corps. Pvt. Louis Navotney to Regiment Band, June 1, 1898.

Killed in Action at Aibonito Pass. Corp. Oscar R. Swanson, August 12, 1898. Pvt. Fred V. Voight, August 12, 1898.

Died. Pvt. Leslie McArthur, typhoid fever, in Brigade Hospital, Coamo, September 11, 1898. Pvt. Peter Nolan, typhoid fever, General Hospital, Ponce, October 29, 1898. Pvt. E. Miner Moyer, typhoid fever, hospital, Philadelphia, November 1, 1898.

The official record of the company as it appears upon the muster out roll, compiled by Capt. Frank L. French, is as follows:

"Mustered into U. S. service May 11, 1898. May 14, 1898, left Milwaukee, Wis., for Chickamauga Park, Ga., arrived May 16, 1898. Remained in Camp Chickamauga Park until July 5, leaving for Charleston, S. C., on that date; arriving at Charleston July 7, 1898, remained in camp at Charleston until July 20; on that day embarked on U. S. transport No. 30 (Obdam) and sailed for Porto Rico, daylight July 21. Landed at Ponce, P. R., July 28, remaining in camp there until August 7. Advanced towards San Juan, took part in engagement at Coamo August 9, 1898, went into camp that night near Aibonito Pass. August 12, during engagement with the Spaniards, Corporal Oscar Swanson and Private Fred J. Voight were killed and Corporal August Yanke and Private George Bunce were wounded by shrapnell fired from enemies' trenches on Asomanta Mountain.

"August 13 returned to camp near Coamo, remaining there until October 2, 1898, at which time regiment proceeded toward San Juan, arriving at Cayey October 4, remaining there until October 6, 1898, returning to camp near Ponce, arriving October 9, 1898, remained until October 21, on which date we boarded steamer Manitoba and sailed for New York harbor October 22, 1898, arriving at New York October 28, 1898. Left New York for home station October 29, 1898, arrived at Sparta October 31,

1898. Mustered out of service January 12, 1899 by Captain Andrus, Fifth Cavalry mustering officer."

In common with the other companies of the Third Regiment, Company L was reorganized and mustered into the state service May 1, 1899. The company has stood high among the National Guard companies and made an enviable record as a good all-around company.

Its commissioned officers since the original organization with dates of commission are as follows:

Captains. Robert B. McCoy, July 15, 1896; O. L. Arnold, June 14, 1907; C. C. Ayers, March 7, 1907; W. A. Dickinson, January 25, 1909; E. A. Merrill, June 1, 1911.

First Lieutenants. F. L. French, July 15, 1896; M. R. Gould, May 1, 1899; A. DeGroff, January 25, 1902; O. L. Arnold, March 20, 1905; C. C. Ayers, June 9, 1907; J. B. Fosnot, March, 1909; W. A. Dickinson, July 7, 1909; R. A. Merrill, January 25, 1909; W. A. Holden June 1, 1911.

Second Lieutenants. John P. Rice, July 15, 1896; J. B. Schneller, September 29, 1907; T. J. Hanson, May 1, 1899; A. DeGroff, June 17, 1901; O. L. Arnold, January 25, 1902; F. E. Bauchop, April 10, 1905; C. C. Ayers, January 11, 1907; J. B. Fosnot June 9, 1907; W. A. Holden, July 7, 1909; C. F. Hanson, June 1, 1911.

April 18, 1900, the company was organized into the Aibonito Guard Association under the corporate laws of the state; every member of Company L being a member of the association and five years' service entitles each man so serving to life membership. This association bought the present armory property and has it fully paid for and are entirely out of debt, and during 1912 many valuable improvements were made, including a new heating plant.

UNITED SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETERANS.

Following the Spanish-American war the necessity for organization to promote the welfare of the veterans of that struggle became apparent, and in due time two camps of the order were organized in this county.

Oscar Zimmerman Camp No. 20 was organized at Tomah February 4, 1906, with the following charter members: Geo. R. Alverson, Thos. J. Johnson, Oscar Mick, Met Rose, Arthur Patterson, Alvin E. Baumgarten, Ralph P. Johnson, W. R. McCaul, Louis Schalle, W. W. Warren, Chas. E. Bohn, Geo. J. Kuckuck, Adolph H. Nelson, Claude R. Sowle, Chas. K. Wright, Chas. E.

Butters, Fred Keyes, Arthur Otts, Wm. H. Sauer, J. A. Dewey, Ned. H. Lombard, Edward J. Pecore, Frank H. Sauer, Geo. H. Williams, Andrew L. Flood, Herbert Logan, John W. Reynolds, Geo. H. Terry, Harry M. Warren, Otto O. E. Franz, Edgar A. Lea, Albert D. Beck, Bert Trowbridge, Alfred Harp, Wm. E. Lerz, Wm. H. Root, Thos. E. C. Vesper, Benj. Lapp.

Its present officers are: Oscar Mick, commander; Bert. Trowbridge, S. V.; Fred Keyes, J. V.; Adolph Nelson, O. of D.; Wm. Lerz, O. G.; adjutant, Claude R. Sowle; quartermaster, Frank H. Sauer.

Sparta Camp No. 17. A camp was originally organized some few years ago under this number, but it did not survive, owing to lack of membership, but the old number was preserved and when, in February, 1912, another camp was organized, it was given the old number of seventeen. The charter was granted February 2, 1912, with the following charter members: Geo. Esch, Geo. W. King, John A. King, F. L. French, H. C. Heitman, Evan S. Evans, John H. Jackson, H. Clay Hogue, Frank Perham, J. J. McAuliffe, Wm. L. Davis, R. B. McCoy, E. M. Perham, E. J. Brooks, Henry Selke, Perl J. Wilcox, H. H. Williams, E. A. Baumgarten, A. Anderson, Albert Larson, R. A. Richards, Walter Hammond, C. A. Hutson, Andrew J. Harr, Louis A. Losby, N. C. Markham, A. L. Hollenbeck, M. E. Putnam, A. F. Becker and H. N. Kurtzman. The present officers are: Geo. Esch, commander; F. L. French, S. V.; E. M. Perham, J. V.; R. A. Richards, O. of D.; Perl Wilcox, O. of G.; John H. Jackson, Adj.; E. J. Brooks, Quar.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

THE LEGAL FRATERNITY.

Whatever else may be said of the legal fraternity, it cannot be denied that its members have a more prominent position in public affairs than any other class of a community. This is but the natural result of the ability and training which qualify one to practice law, for this also qualifies him in many respects for duties which lie outside of the strict path of his profession and touch the general interest of society.

His training as a public speaker gives him prominence and power; the study of the principles of jurisprudence qualify him above everything else for useful membership in law making bodies. The leaders in Congress and in our Legislature are usually lawyers.

During the war of the Rebellion no one class of people went earlier to the front, served their country more devotedly or with greater distinction than the lawyers; and of the men who remained at home during that contest, no class of citizens took a more active part in sustaining the soldiers in the field. Without any partiality it may be said that in every period of our country's history members of the bar have shown themselves to be patriotic; the Declaration of Independence was drawn by a lawyer; in the war of the Rebellion great aid was rendered by such men as Adams, Hamilton, King, Marshall, Jefferson, Livingston, Clinton, Granger and hundreds of others who belonged to the legal profession.

It is a peculiar fact that the legal mind has been and ever will be arrayed to the side of order, good morals and good government. A lawyer's experience with the affairs of men, his habits of thought and reflection all tend in that direction; when elevated to the bench his influence for good is unlimited.

The prominent part that members of the bar take in public affairs in this and in every other country, the weight of the influence they have exerted and the dignity they have imparted to the profession requires that in this work a permanent record of the lives of those men who have been chiefly instrumental in

making the history of the bench and bar of this county should be here recorded. It may not be complete, as the difficulty of procuring data concerning the lives of the earlier practitioners has been great. In placing these sketches in this chapter the author has no favorites to please and has endeavored without discrimination to get the facts as they are.

The earlier lawyers at Tomah were George Graham, Henry C. Spaulding and James LeRoy; A. E. Bleekman started his practice at Tomah, being associated with Mr. Spauding for a time, subsequently removed to Sparta, forming a partnership with F. H. Bloomingdale under the firm name of Bleekman and Bloomingdale, which firm moved to LaCrosse. F. E. Campbell was also associated with Mr. Spaulding under the firm name of Spaulding and Campbell; Mr. Campbell, however, soon retired from the firm and went west and in later years received judicial honors.

Almon A. Helms, while an employee of the St. Paul railroad, studied law in Tomah with Judge George Graham and was taken into partnership as Graham and Helms, but soon moved to Merrill, Wis., where he has since resided.

David F. Jones was admitted to the bar in 1884 and began the practice at Sparta a few years afterwards, forming a partnership with S. W. Button, which continued a number of years; about the time of its dissolution Mr. Jones was apointed United States District Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin. In 1899 found a partnership with R. A. Richards, who moved over from Tomah, under the firm name of Jones & Richards which continued until the death of Mr. Jones about two years later.

B. H. Hackett came to Tomah about 1895, entered the office of Judge Graham, who moved to Sparta shortly afterward and was elected district attorney twice, but died in 1901 just before beginning his second term. H. C. Altizer and W. B. Clark located in Sparta about 1898; Altizer was elected district attorney and served one term beginning in 1899; a partnership was formed with W. B. Clark, which continued a short time; soon after the expiration of Altizer's term of office he left the county; Clark continued practice for a time and then moved to Texas.

Howard Teasdale began practice in 1891 and R. B. McCoy in 1894. Four Bowler brothers—Edward, Timothy, James J. and George—all received their legal education while residents of the county, the first two being now in successful practice in Sheboygan, having George associated with them.

James J. was in partnership with R. A. Richards under the firm name of Richards & Bowler, which was dissolved after a

few years, Mr. Richards entering into partnership with Z. S. Rice which continued about two years. James J. Bowler and his brother George practiced for a term under the firm name of Bowler & Bowler, but in 1909 closed up their office and moved elsewhere.

Of the older lawyers still in the county there remain Judge C. M. Masters, Judge George Graham, Judge S. W. Button and George A. Richardson, none of whom are now in active practice except Mr. Masters and he has practically retired from court work.

William B. Naylor began practice at Tomah in 1894 having associated with him H. E. Glover, which continued under the firm name of Naylor & Glover for about a year, Mr. Glover retiring in 1901.

William R. McCaul and Mr. Naylor formed a partnership which still continues.

While Colonel Graham has retired from active practice, and is at the present time serving as postmaster at Tomah, his son John G. Graham, who has been associated with his father for a number of years, continues the firm of Graham & Graham.

A. H. Smith practiced in the county for a time, later entering the employ of the Great Northern Railway, severing his connection with the road about two years ago and has since resided at Merrill, Wis.

Thorwald P. Abel and Zelotus S. Rice both commenced the practice about 1891, Mr. Rice being for a time associated with R. A. Richards.

At the present time the bar of the county is composed of Messrs. Graves & Masters, S. W. Button, George A. Richardson, R. A. Richards, R. B. McCoy, Howard Teasdale, T. P. Abel and Z. S. Rice at Sparta, and Graham & Graham and Naylor & McCaul at Tomah.

Quite a number of young men received their early legal training in the county and though not engaging in practice in the county to any extent, a number of them acquired great prominence on the bench and at the bar.

James N. Gillett, who became governor of California, studied law with Morrow & Masters.

John J. Esch, of national prominence as congressman from this district, graduated from the Sparta high school in 1878.

In that same class was Julian Bennett, who was elected to a district judgship in South Dakota, while residing at Watertown; he died about 1905.

HON. JOHN J. ESCH

Frank Sawyer, of same class, has for many years practiced law in San Francisco.

Frank F. Oster, also a high school graduate in '78, is now a district judge in California.

Fred V. Wood, a high school graduate in 1886, has recently been appointed a judge in one of the northern counties of California.

Of the sons of Romanzo Bunn all of them received their early education at Sparta; George Bunn is now a district judge at St. Paul, Minn.; C. W. Bunn is now general counsel for the Northern Pacific Railway Company, with headquarters at St. Paul; John Bunn is practicing at Spokane, Wash.; all very bright men.

George Gray, who graduated from the Sparta high school in 1886, has been practicing for some years at Milad, Idaho.

Charles W. Meadows, who practiced for a time at Sparta, is now county judge of Barron county.

Carl Montgomery, son of Gen. Milton Montgomery, is a prominent lawyer of Nebraska, residing at Omaha.

Judge John Anderson, of Chippewa Falls, received his early education at Tomah, afterwards graduating from the university.

Clark Rosecrantz, now of Milwaukee, at present general attorney for the Milwaukee Street Railway System, is a graduate of the Sparta high school.

M. E. Powell, who studied law with L. W. Graves and practiced in the county for a time, is now a resident of Redwood Falls, Minn.

A distinguished list of Monroe county's sons who are helping to make history elsewhere.

In a subsequent chapter will be given a brief history of the county court of Monroe county and included in it will be the lives of the men who have served as judges as far as it is possible to obtain them at this time, and naturally included in it will be those members of the bar who for a time practiced law as well as served as judges.

To attempt in this work to give an historical account of the litigation which was prominent in the courts during all these years would be a task which would require a volume in itself. Among the members of the bar have been men who attracted state wide attention by their ability and skill and advocates; but of its number only two members of the bar in this county became judges of this circuit, Hon. Romanzo Bunn and Hon. Joseph M. Morrow.

As it is men who make history, the lives of the members of the bar furnish, perhaps, the best historical account of the bar itself, as each one unfolds its own peculiar matters of interest and the story of the bar in this county may best be told by giving here, as far as we are able to get them, sketches of the lives of its members, past and present. Some we have been unable to get, in some instances because of failure to answer requests, and in others a lack of opportunity, by reason of the length of time, to get information.

On the 18th of September, 1854, the Circuit Court of Monroe County had its first term; the judge at that time who presided over this and over three subsequent terms of court was the Hon. Wiram Knowlton; unfortunately we are unable to learn anything of his history and except the fact that he held the first court in this county and tried a number of cases at that and the subsequent terms. E. Walrath was the sheriff and John H. Barker the clerk of the court.

It is interesting to know that in these days when grand juries are almost called a thing of the past in this county and when it has been the custom of circuit judges for a long series of years to file an order dispensing with the calling of a grand jury, that at the earlier terms of court in this county for several years a grand jury was summoned; in the first panel appears several names which are still familiar. The jury at the term of court in September, 1854, found one true bill and was then discharged by the court; its members were Morrison McMillan, foreman; R. J. Casselman, Lymon Prescott, Loyd Angle, W. Wooldridge, C. H. Blake, Thomas Fawcett, Jr., S. W. McLogan, Alva Heath, James Rathbun, E. I. Lathrop, David Mayward, J. C. Inman, T. Barker, E. W. Dexter and John Foster.

Upon the establishment by law of the Sixth Judicial Circuit George Gale became the first judge serving from 1856 to 1861, Isaac E. Messmore 1861 to 1862, Edwin Flint 1862 to 1869, Romanzo Bunn 1869 to 1877, A. W. Newman 1878 to 1893, Joseph M. Morrow 1893 to 1894, Orvis B. Wyman 1894 to 1900 (when he died), J. J. Fruit from 1900 to 1909 (when he died), 1909 to the present by Hon. E. C. Higbee.

Among the earlier practitioners we find the names of a great many of those who doubtless appeared in court in this county, but were residents elsewhere; at the first term the firm of Denison & Lyndes appears frequently upon the calendar, and at that term Ebenezer Lathrop, James H. Edsall and Carlton E. Rice were admitted to practice as attorneys; at the next term,

in March, 1855, George F. Haswell and E. S. Blake were admitted to practice and Mr. Haswell, owing to the fact that there was no district attorney in the county, was appointed district attorney for the term by the judge.

At subsequent terms during the next few years J. C. Pratt, Lincoln Montgomery, Levi W. Barman, Goodwin W. Lincoln, Samuel C. Lyon, L. W. Graves, George W. Pratt, L. Vanshirk, N. Leonard, Joseph W. Losey, Thomas B. Tyler, Romanzo Bunn and E. I. Lathrop were admitted to practice at various terms of court.

It seemed to be the rule among the earlier practitioners to form firms and to make frequent changes. For, during the years 1854 up to 1861, we find upon the court records the firms of Leonard & Tyler, Graves & Montgomery, Lathrop & Blake, Lathrop, Pratt & Blake, Lincoln & Van Slyck, Lincoln & Rice, Graves, Montgomery & Rice, Rice & Pratt, Montgomery, Leonard & Tyler, Graves & Rice, Graves & Leonard, Lincoln & Pratt, Montgomery & Tyler, Rice & Bunn, and several single practitioners.

A little later on came J. M. Morrow, who was associated with L. W. Graves for a time under the firm name of Graves & Morrow, then came S. N. Dickenson, and for some time the firm of Montgomery, Tyler & Dickenson existed; soon after the admission of C. M. Masters to the bar, in 1871 the firm of Morrow & Masters was formed and existed for a long term of years until Judge Morrow was appointed to the Circuit Bench; with his defeat for election the firm, which had, when he went to the bench, been dissolved, was again united and remained until the death of Judge Morrow, after which Judge Masters associated with himself R. B. Graves, who had previously been employed in the office of Masters & Graves, and later the son, H. M., was admitted as the junior partner and the firm is today Masters, Graves & Masters.

W. M. Graham came in the early eighties to Sparta and soon after formed a partnership with S. N. Dickenson as Dickenson & Graham. In 1891 both these gentlemen moved to West Sueprior, where the firm of Knowles, Dickenson, Buchanan, Graham & Wilson was formed.

C. W. Graves practiced in the county for a number of years and at one time formed partnership with A. E. Bleekman under the firm name of Graves & Bleekman, but Graves retired and went to Vernon county, practicing in Viroqua, where he still resides.

L. W. Graves. In the earlier period of Monroe county, from about 1857 to 1874, there was no more prominent lawyer than Lewis W. Graves, and there are many of the older residents of this and surrounding counties who still recall anecdotes of his forensic ability and caustic wit in the trial of notable cases, of which there were many in those days. "Lew" Graves, as he was familiarly known, was born at Attica, Wyoming county, New York, on February 28, 1825, and was the son of Rev. Nathaniel Graves, who lived for many years on Bush Prairie in the town of Lafayette. He received a common school education and studied law in East Aurora, Erie county, New York, in the office of Humphrey & Sawin, and was admitted to the bar at Albion, N. Y., in 1853. He practiced his profession in East Aurora until 1856, when he came with his wife and infant son to Sparta and at once went into active practice. He was married to Mary J. Waldo, at East Aurora, on August 3, 1852, and three sons were born of the marriage: Charles W. Graves, a well known lawyer of Viroqua, Frank H. Graves, editor of the Vernon County Leader, of Viroqua, and William Graves, who died in 1879. Mrs. Graves survived her husband many years and died at Sparta in June, 1909. L. W. Graves served as district attorney of Monroe county in 1859-1860. He died at his home in Sparta on May 3, 1876. During his career at the bar he was at different times connected, as a partner, with Carlton E. Rice (Graves & Rice), Milton Montgomery (Graves & Montgomery), E. G. Wheeler (Graves & Wheeler), J. E. Snow (Graves & Snow), and J. M. Morrow (Graves & Morrow). He was at all times a Democrat in politics and in 1864 was one of the delegates to the National Democratic Convention, which nominated George B. McClellan. Mr. Graves was a lawyer of great force and ability and was especially strong in jury trials. He loved a sharply contested lawsuit and was especially noted as a socalled criminal lawyer. His practice extended throughout the western portion of the state and he was constantly brought in contact with a lot of able lawyers, such as William H. Tucker, J. W. Losey and B. F. Montgomery, of La Crosse; Emmons Taylor, of Portage; G. C. Pope, of Black River Falls; John Turner, of Mauston, and George B. Smith, of Madison, and others of like calibre. During his career at the bar he participated in many notable trials and was nearly always successful. Among these may be recalled the famous Skippens murder trial (Viroqua), in which, after one conviction and one disagreement, he acquitted Charles Skippen

for the killing of James Newell on a third trial; the famous (in those days) slander case of Parshall vs. Remington (where one Baptist preacher sued another for slander). The long drawn out mill dam litigation between Gilman and Herrick, involving water power rights on the La Crosse river; the crim con case of Jones vs. Goss, the case of State vs. Joe Hull, Bell vs. Village of Sparta (where plaintiff fell into the pond through a hole in Franklin street bridge), Dinehart vs. Lafayette (a case involving the constitutionality of the Soldiers' Bounty Act), Cremer vs. Town of Portland, Randall vs. Ellis and McDonald, and many other notable cases that might be mentioned, all of which were earnestly and vigorously contested before Circuit Judges Gale, Flint, Messmore and Bunn, and which, in those days, seemed to attract more attention and draw to the trial from far larger crowds than important litigation of like character does nowadays, and it was no rare thing to have the old white brick court house crowded with people, drawn there to hear Lew Graves address a jury. Mr. Graves was a most companionable man, a universal favorite with his townsmen, and his fellow lawyers, and his untimely death, at the age of 51 years, was universally regretted throughout the region where he was so well known. At a meeting of the bar of Monroe county, held May 5, 1876, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, Under Divine Providence, out late fellow-citizen, Lewis W. Graves, has been removed from us by death, and we are again reminded of the shortness of man's probation on earth, and

Whereas, the members of the bar in Monroe county and the western part of Wisconsin, from personal association in their professional relations, are able to speak of his noble qualities, greatness of heart, and marked ability, and the younger members especially, of his encouragement, kindness and assistance to them. Therefore,

Resolved, That we have learned with regret the melancholy intelligence of the death of our brother, Lewis W. Graves, a member of this bar for nearly a quarter of a century.

Resolved, That we recall with pleasure his many good qualities as a man and a lawyer; his mental accomplishments, and genial social qualities; his earnestness, ability, and eloquence as an advocate, and that we mourn his death as a loss to the profession and this bar.

Resolved, That in view of the sad event, while we would not

needlessly obtrude ourselves upon the notice of the bereaved friends, yet we are constrained to tender them our profound sympathies in this hour of their great sorrow.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That in behalf of the bar of this county, that the court thereof, on the first day of next term, be respectfully requested to enter the foregoing preamble and resolutions upon its records. A. E. Bleekman, Secretary.

Thomas B. Tyler, a pioneer citizen of Sparta, was born at Coshocton, Sullivan county, New York, January 12, 1824, and died at Sparta, July 18, 1886. When quite young he removed with his parents to Seneca, Ontario county. He received his education in the public schools and at Canandaigua Academy. Later he studied medicine with Dr. Francis Dean at Gorham, Ontario county, and married Sarah E. Dean, only daughter of Dr. Dean. During the gold excitement in 1849 he went to California, returning after an absence of two years. In 1852 he settled at Coudersport, Pa., where he studied law and held the position of prothonotary, or clerk of the court.

In 1857 he was admitted to the bar and the same year removed to Sparta, Wis., and formed a law partnership with Milton Montgomery. Later S. N. Dickinson was admitted to the firm and on the removal of Colonel Montgomery from Sparta, the firm became Tyler & Dickinson. In 1884 Mr. Tyler sold his interest in the law business to Wm. M. Graham. Some years previous to this he had formed a partnership with Ira A. Hill, under the firm name of Tyler & Hill, conducting a general real estate and loan business.

Mr. Tyler was identified with the Bank of Sparta from its founding in 1858, and served as its vice-president from 1865 to 1883, and as president from 1883 until his death. He often served in the council of the village and was its president for four years, and after it was incorporated as a city was its first mayor.

Although he took a lively interest in all public questions of importance he could hardly be called an active politician, as he was not a seeker after public preferment. He was a delegate to the Democratic national convention that met in New York city in July, 1868, when Horatio Seymour was nominated for president, and once he permitted his name to be used as a candidate for state senator and ran ahead of his party ticket. In 1884 he was urged by his party to become a candidate for governor of the state, but declined to accept the honor. In Masonic circles

he was especially active and widely known, taking an interest in the Consistory and in its constituent bodies. Mr. and Mrs. Tyler had one child, Mary E. Tyler, who became the wife of Ira A. Hill, and was a resident of Sparta until her death in 1909.

Samuel N. Dickenson was born in Neilsborough, Pa., July 24, 1833. He was educated at the schools of East Hampton, Mass., and read law in the office of Johnson & Brown at Warren, Pa., and was admitted to the bar of the court of common pleas at that place on August 17, 1857, and in the courts of Tioga, Pa., on the 25th day of September, 1857. Shortly thereafter he removed to Illinois and was admitted to all the courts of that state on January 2, 1858; removing to Wisconsin he was admitted to practice in the circuit court in Clark county in this state, on motion of Carl C. Pope, September 6, 1858, and to the federal courts of the western district of Wisconsin February 24, 1871. He was admitted to practice in the supreme court on June 3, 1873. Practicing at Neilsville a short time, removing thence to Sparta, where he became a member of the firm of Montgomery, Tyler & Dickenson. Later Mr. Montgomery withdrew from the firm and it continued as Tyler & Dickenson. Another change was made when Mr. Tyler sold his interest to W. M. Graham, when the firm became Dickenson & Graham. In 1899 the firm dissolved and Mr. Dickenson moved to Chippewa Falls, where he formed a partnership with Dan Buchanan, Jr. In 1891 the firm removed to Superior, where the firm of Knowles, Dickenson, Buchanan, Graham & Wilson was formed. In April, 1897, Dickenson and Graham formed a partnership with E. C. Canady under the firm name of Dickenson, Canady & Graham. This firm did a general law business for a short time and dissolved, and for the last three years of his life Mr. Dickenson was alone in business. He died November 6, 1905, being killed by the accidental discharge of a rifle which he was engaged in cleaning.

His associates of the bar of Douglas county in the memorial services soon after his death said of him in a resolution as follows:

"In his death, his associates as well as the legal profession, have lost one of its most distinguished members, and the city of Superior one of its best citizens; and not only Superior, but the state of Wisconsin as well.

"Judge Dickenson, as he was called, was a man whom all respected. He was plain, honest, courageous, true. He was a type of America's best citizenship. He worked hard, he persevered and he always gave the best service that was in him, there

was no guile in his composition, he hated sham and deceit, he was open and above board in all his dealings, professional and otherwise. He was a good man, a patriotic citizen and an able lawyer."

Joseph M. Morrow. Perhaps no man who lived in the county of Monroe attained the prominence and wide acquaintance in the state as that which Judge Morrow enjoyed; the superiority of his intellectual and professional attainments won for him fame, which went even beyond the limits of the state. As a lawyer he was engaged in almost every case of importance which was tried in this section of the state during the last forty years of his lifetime. As a judge he was impartial in his ruling, justly exacting regarding the conduct of lawyers in his court, yet treating them all with gentleness and courtesy which won the respect of all the members of the bar in the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

Judge Morrow was born in Aurora county, New York, January 1, 1832, and received his education at the Aurora Academy, after which he clerked in a store for three years, and following that he accepted a position with George A. Prince, a manufacturer, with whom he remained two years, when he went to Boston to enter the employ of the Mason & Hamlin Organ Company. He arrived at Sparta September 18, 1856, and resided in that city continuously up to the time of his death. He was admitted to the bar in 1859, and in 1872 formed a partnership with Judge C. M. Masters, which continued, with the exception of the time when Judge Morrow was sitting as circuit judge, up until the time of his death.

Judge Morrow served the county faithfully as district attorney for six different terms, was president of the village two years, clerk of the Board of Education seven years; was United States Internal Revenue Collector two years during Cleveland's first term. At the end of this time his district was consolidated with the second, and the office moved to Madison under the collector of that district. He was delegate-at-large to the National Democratic Convention at Chicago in 1884, and was appointed judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit in 1893 by Governor Peck and held the office until the next election when, owing to the district being overwhelmingly Republican, he was defeated. He had served as grand chancelor and past supreme representative of the Knights of Pythias; he was a member of A. O. U. W. and a Mason. He was married April 9, 1860, to

Miss Olive Graves, of Sparta, and to them was born one daughter, Mary who still resides in Sparta in the old home. Judge Morrow died suddenly on the 28th day of July, 1899, dropping to the sidewalk and expiring almost instantly while going from his home to the office in the afternoon of that day.

Adelbert E. Bleekman, Sparta, was born at Salisbury, Herkimer county, New York, March 26, 1846. After receiving an academic education he studied law, came to Wisconsin in 1869, and settled in Tomah in the practice of his profession. In 1873 he was elected a member of the assembly. During the late war he entered the military service as private in Company A, Second Ohio Cavalry, and was in the battles of the Wilderness, Hanover Court House, Ackland Station, and all of Wilson's engagements during his raids in 1864. While residing at Tomah he was elected without opposition to the state senate in November, 1873. Removing to Sparta in June, 1875, he was elected district attorney for the county of Monroe for 1876, 1877 and 1878. Mr. Bleekman's law firm in Sparta with Mr. Bloomingdale was Bleekman & Bloomingdale. Afterwards he moved to La Crosse, where he died June 27, 1908.

Henry C. Spaulding was a son of V. Spaulding, who came to Monroe county from Chelmford, Mass., in the year 1855. Henry C. was born in Massachusetts on the 10th day of January, 1844. He studied law at Tomah with the firm of Graham & Bleekman and was admitted to the bar in 1872. On the 24th day of June, 1871, he was married to Miss N. M. Wells, who was born in Michigan. Six children were born to them, Clara B., Susie, Laura, Harry A., Edward, and Estella M.

In 1877 Mr. Spaulding formed a partnership with A. E. Bleekman under the firm name of Bleekman & Spaulding, which continued for about three years. He afterwards entered into partnership with F. E. Campbell under the firm name of Spaulding & Campbell, which firm continued for some two years. After that Mr. Spaulding practiced alone at the city of Tomah until the time of his death, which occurred on the 7th day of May, 1907.

He attended Beloit College, taught school, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1872. He served as a private in Company H, Tenth Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, during 1861-1862; in 1864 he again enlisted as a private in Company E, Forty-fourth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Spaulding was a man of fine personality, a pleasing and forceful

speaker, and took great interest in public affairs. In his practice he met with a large measure of success, particularly in criminal law.

David F. Jones was born in Utica, N. Y., May 11, 1859. He removed to Wisconsin with his parents at an early age and in 1874 became a resident of the city of Sparta. His early education was received in the Sparta schools and was completed by a thorough course at Galesville College and Lake Forest University. He studied law in the office of Morrow & Masters at Sparta and was admitted to the bar in 1884, and the following year was elected district attorney for Monroe county, which office he held for six consecutive years. He was elected again in the fall of 1893 and served one term.

About this time he became quite prominent in state politics and was elected a delegate to the National Republican Convention at St. Louis in 1896, which nominated President McKinley. During 1897-1898 represented his district in the assembly and made a brilliant record at this session; his ability was recognized on all sides and he was appointed a member of the committee to revise the Statutes of 1898 and rendered a valuable assistance in that work.

In July, 1898, he was appointed by President McKinley United States District Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin and his administration to that most important office stamped him as a lawyer of energy, ability and integrity. On January 1, 1899, he formed a partnership with R. A. Richards, who moved to Sparta from Tomah, under the firm name of Jones & Richards, which continued up until the time of the death of Mr. Jones, which occurred on the 20th day of December, 1900.

Mr. Jones was interested in local politics and served as chairman of the Republican County Committee for six years and was frequently a delegate of state and congressional conventions and in the year 189.. he became a candidate for the state senate, and the history of that memorable fight in which the senatorial district met several times in the different parts of the senatorial district, which consisted of Jackson, Monroe and Vernon counties, is still fresh in the minds of some of the participants. Mr. Jones was defeated for the nomination, but his course marked him as a man to be reckoned with in the future. He served the city of Sparta in the capacity of its attorney several terms, he was a Knight Templar and prominent in Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges and at all times enjoyed

the confidence of his friends. While attending a term of the United States Court at Madison in the month of December, 1900, he was taken suddenly ill and came home to take to his bed with a severe case of typhoid fever and after a gallant fight for his life he gave up and passed away deeply mourned and his death sincerely regretted by the community at large.

Mr. Jones was quite prominent in church and temperance work in his own community and for five consecutive terms he was superintendent of the Sunday school of the First Congregational Church; he was a deep student of the Bible and his lectures to the school were interesting and instructive and delivered in that eloquent manner of which he was a master they were very interesting, indeed. He was married at Sparta, Wis., on March 12, 1884, to Miss Flora Smith and to them were born three children, Marcus, Augustus and Ida.

Frank H. Bloomingdale, Sparta, was born at Coudersport, Pa., October 15, 1854, and in the spring of 1863 he came to Wisconsin with his parents. His education was commenced in the public schools at Sparta, and in the fall of 1872 he entered the state university, where he completed his sophomore year. In the fall of 1874 he entered the law school of Michigan State University, and was admitted to the bar at the December term of the Monroe County Circuit Court at Sparta in 1877. In January, 1879, he commenced practice of the law at Sparta, in partnership with A. E. Bleekman, and the firm continued as Bleekman & Bloomingdale. Later on the firm moved to La Crosse when after practicing a few years it was dissolved and Mr. Bloomingdale moved to California, where he is now engaged in practice.

George A. Richardson was born in the town of Manchester, Bennington county, Vermont, March 22, 1834; he was educated in the common schools and fitted himself for college at Burr Seminary and graduated from Middlebury College in the class of 1860.

He taught school for a time and then enlisted in the Fourteenth Vermont Volunteer Infantry of Nine Months' Men and served nearly a year, being discharged at Brattleboro, Vt., about two months after the Battle of Gettysburg. After his discharge from the service Mr. Richardson taught school and attended the Albany Law College at Albany, N. Y., for some time and came to Sparta, Wis., in April, 1866, and finished his law education in the office of Graves & Wheeler and entered upon the practice of his profession. He was elected district attorney of Monroe

county and served for one term in 1871-1872 and receiving an advantageous offer from M. A. Thayer he entered into his employ and served as bookkeeper and cashier in the bank of M. A. Thayer & Co. until 1893; since that time Mr. Richardson has retired from active practice of law but maintains an office where he occupies his time with light office work, more as a matter of having something to do as he is a very industrious man by nature.

He has served the Sparta Free Library as chairman of the library board for over twenty years and rendered invaluable service in and about the construction of the new library building. He has also served as secretary and treasurer of the Sparta cemetery since it was organized in 1886. He and his estimable wife still reside in their pleasant home on Water street, which is situated on the same lots where they began housekeeping in the spring of 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson are prominent members of the Congregational church and are active in religious work and highly respected in the community.

William B. Naylor, Jr., was born in Grand Rapids, Wis., and moved to Tomah with his parents in 1873. He attended the Tomah public schools, worked as a clerk in the office of H. M. Sowle and through that became much interested in handling pensions and in pension laws, all of which aroused his interest in law as a profession. He determined to become a member of the bar; he attended the University of Minnesota for one year and then attended the University of Wisconsin Law College from which he graduated in 1894. He opened an office in Tomah, July 20, 1894, with H. E. Glover, who was a classmate in college of Mr. Naylor's and whose home was originally at Spencer, Iowa. This firm, Naylor & Glover, engaged in practice for about a year when Mr. Glover retired and Naylor continued the business alone. He served as city attorney and city clerk a number of different terms and was school district clerk, of School District No. 1, of the city of Tomah, for about nine years and resigned this office when he became district attorney of Monroe county, which position he served with distinction from 1904 to 1908; and by his conservative methods, thorough preparation and his alert interest in the county's affairs he left behind him in that office an enviable record, having to his credit a collection of about $10,000 in sums of various sizes for support due for inmates of the insane asylums and for other matters affecting the financial interests of the county; as district attorney he conducted the prosecution of the two trials of Samuel Montgomery for the murder of his wife, which resulted in the conviction of Mont-

gomery, and the appeal from the Circuit Court was sustained by the Supreme Court of the State. In 1901 a partnership was formed between Mr. Naylor and William McCaul under the firm name of Naylor & McCaul, which firm still continues at practice in Tomah. At the present time Mr. Naylor is serving his school district as president of the school board.

He is a pleasing and forceful speaker, has always been an active Republican worker and takes great interest in the local affairs of his own community and the county at large.

Howard Teasdale, state senator, of Sparta, has made an indelible impression on the public life of Sparta and throughout the state of Wisconsin. He was born at Janesville, Rock county, on August 9, 1855, son of John and Sarah (Seymour) Teasdale (sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work).

Mr. Teasdale first attended the schools of District No. 8, of Sparta township, where his parents were early settlers; he afterward pursued a course of study at the Sparta high school which was supplemented by a modern classical course at the Wisconsin State University, and afterwards a special one-year course, then took up the study of law in the law department of the university, graduating with the class of 1882. During the years of 1881 and 1886 he was engaged in the machinery business, retailing binders and other machinery with his father, who was an extensive operator in this line. It was this business and the management of the homestead farm of 1,000 acres, that engaged Mr. Teasdale's attention until 1889, when he moved to Sparta and opened an office and engaged in the practice of law, which he has since carried on successfully in addition to many other business enterprises in the city.

Senator Teasdale's life has been one of constant activity since early boyhood. During some ten years he followed the vocation of teaching country schools during the winter months, eight years were spent in the Monroe county schools, and two years in Dane county. He has taken an active interest in politics and has been called upon to fill many local offices of trust. For one year, 1890 to 1891, he was justice of the peace, and from 1891 to 1896 was city clerk; it was largely through his influence that the city waterworks system was installed in Sparta, he having charge of the system as superintendent for ten years, until October, 1910, when he resigned on account of his pressing senatorial duties. He was city attorney ten years, has been treasurer of city schools fifteen years, and in 1905 was appointed by Governor LaFollettee as district attorney for Monroe county,

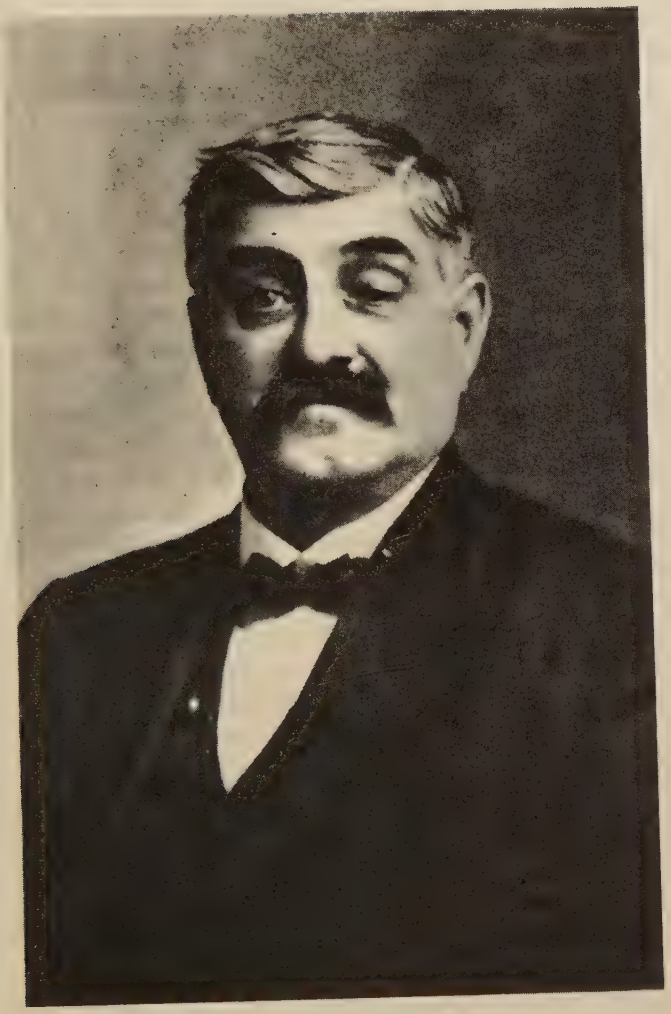
filling the office for nearly two years, and was then elected for a two-year term. He was elected state senator in 1910 from the district composed of Jackson, Monroe and Juneau counties. His opponents in this campaign were W. B. Naylor, W. S. Hake and G. M. Frohmader, Mr. Teasdale winning in the four-cornered contest by a majority of 500. During his term of office Mr. Teasdale has taken an active part in all the important legislation coming before the senate; he represents the Progressive Temperance element and he literally opposed the Income Tax Act and the Teachers' Pension Act. He introduced a bill for ad valorem tax of telephone property; a bill forcing the physical connection of the two railroads entering cities and villages; a bill requiring owners of cemetery lots to give them care; a bill requiring uniform accounting of all asylums; a bill permitting county court to be held at Tomah; a bill on drainage; the law requiring physicians to make thorough examination of patients before prescribing liquor; a bill for the protection of shredder operators against injury while their machinery is in operation, and many other matters of legislative importance.

Senator Teasdale is a man of pleasing personality, courteous in manner, quiet in demeanor, of generous impulses, and withal public-spirited and charitable, and whatever relates to the moral or material betterment of the community finds him an ardent advocate and hearty supporter.

Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Independent Order of Good Templars, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Rebekahs. He is one of the largest stockholders in and has had charge of the local telephone system since 1898; he is a stockholder and director in the Electric Light & Power Company, a stockholder and director in the Bank of Sparta, and stockholder of Citizens' Bank, Monroe County Bank, of Sparta, and Bank of Ontario, special state treasury agent for Wisconsin, and has been court commissioner for several years. He also has large property holdings both in Sparta and other localities of the county.

In 1897 Senator Teasdale married Miss Carrie E. Davis, a native of Pennsylvania and daughter of Thomas Davis, of Tomah. Mrs. Teasdale is a woman of fine endowments, whose superior qualities of mind and heart attract to her the admiration of all who come within the range of her influence.

William R. McCaul was born in Tomah, December 5, 1872, and has resided in that city all of his life. He is a graduate of the Tomah high school, studied law in the office of Judge Graham



HOWARD TEASDALE

and was admitted to the bar in 1900. He practiced for one year alone and in 1901 formed a partnership with Mr. Naylor under the firm name of Naylor & McCaul, which firm still continues in practice at Tomah. Mr. McCaul has been city attorney for several years, of the city of Tomah, and has conducted the affairs of this position with marked ability; outside of that he has never held any office. He is a public spirited citizen and interested in the affairs of his community of the county; is a Democrat in politics and has become prominent in the affairs of his party.

John Jacob Esch, Republican, of La Crosse, was born near Norwalk, Monroe County, Wisconsin, March 20, 1861, of German parents; in 1865 his parents moved to Milwaukee, and five years later to Sparta, Wis., where both still reside; after graduating from the Sparta high school entered the modern classical course of the state university at Madison, and took his degree with the class of 1882; for three years following engaged in teaching and the study of law, and in 1886 entered the law department of the state university and graduated in 1887; since being admitted to the bar has practiced law in La Crosse; the only elective office held by him was that of city treasurer of Sparta in 1885; in 1883 organized the Sparta Rifles, afterwards known as Company I, Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, and was commissioned captain, retaining the office until 1887; upon his removal to La Crosse helped organize Company M, of the same regiment, being first lieutenant and afterwards captain; in January, 1894, was commissioned acting judge advocate general, with the rank of colonel, by Gov. W. H. Upham, holding the office for two years; was elected to the Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh, Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth and Sixty-first congresses, and reelected to the Sixty-second congress, receiving 15,365 votes to 7,365 for Paul W. Mahoney, Democrat; 1,180 for John Marquet, Socialist-Democrat, and 458 for A. A. Merrill, Prohibitionist.

JAMES N. GILLETT.

Autobiography.

I was born in Viroqua, Vernon county, Wisconsin, on September 20, 1860. Within a month after the great tornado which destroyed that town my parents moved to Sparta, Wis. This was about August, 1865. My father was Cyrus F. Gillett. He had two brothers, Ransome and Abraham, who also moved to Sparta about that time. I went to school at the North Primary

School, when the old brick high school was finished I went to it. I did not graduate from high school, but was in the class that graduated in the spring 1879.

In December, 1878, I commenced the study of law in the office of Bleekman & Graves. Before finishing my studies Mr. Graves retired from the firm and Mr. F. H. Bloomingdale became a member thereof. I was admitted to practice in the fall of 1881 before Judge Newman who was then circuit judge. Judge Graham, of Tomah, was one of the committee who examined me.

The first lawsuit I ever tried was in Sparta before Justice Samuel Hoyt. It grew out of a horse trade between R. B. Sabins, a deacon in the Baptist church, and a man by the name of Lee. G. W. Meadows, who was studying law with Morrow & Masters, represented the defendant. Mr. Meadows is now a judge in the northern part of Wisconsin. Mr. Hoyt was also a deacon in the Baptist church. The case was decided in my favor, but in looking at it from this distance, I am inclined to believe that the greater factor in the case was the fact that my client and the justice were both deacons of the same church.

In the spring of 1883 I had decided to go West, not knowing just particularly where, but would locate in any favorable spot from Montana to the Pacific ocean. Before leaving, M. A. Thayer, who at that time was a prominent banker in Sparta, requested me to remain there and kindly offered to provide me with a law library and an office free of rent until such time as I could pay for it. This to me was an exceedingly kind offer and coming as it did at that time to one without anything, it gave me a feeling of admiration and friendship for Mr. Thayer which I never forgot.

However, I was firm in my intention to go West and I did, leaving on the 15th day of May, 1883, for St. Paul, from whence I intended to take my bearings. I had $45 when I started, but I considered this sufficient capital for any young man going into a country having the great possibilities that I dreamed the West had. I remained in Montana for several months, working in a saw mill near Bozeman to earn enough money to take me further on my journey. I learned that the thermometer frequently fell as low as 40 degrees below zero and as I had lived many years in a cold climate I wanted to get away if I could.

About the middle of July, 1883, I reached Seattle, which was then a small town of about five thousand. I took a contract for clearing a block of land overlooking Lake Washington. I cleared the land all right, according to contract, but the fellows for

whom I was working were as poor as I was and they failed to pay me $83, the balance due in my behalf. Both of them afterwards became millionaires. While in Seattle, Henry Ward Beecher appeared there and lectured in one of the churches, his subject being "The Common People," and charged $1 admission. I happened to be in from my work getting supplies and I thought this would be my only opportunity to hear and see Beecher. I was not dressed at all for the occasion, but inasmuch as his subject was on the common people and as I represented that class about as thoroughly as anybody could at that time, I concluded to go and hear what he had to say about me and the rest of us and I hid my supplies in an alley near the church and went in. After working a while in Seattle I met a couple of young lawyers who were just locating. Both were from La Crosse. I believe one's name was Kellogg, although I am not sure. I got them the first business they had. After this I found employment in a saw mill at Port Gamble, owned by Pope, Talbott & Co. I worked for them through the fall and winter of 1884, when I decided to go to California.

I arrived in California about the 22nd day of April, having been seasick all the way. We had a storm and a rough voyage. I was traveling steerage and somehow or other I did not seem to get along just right and remained for several days in San Francisco recuperating and in looking over the situation. I finally decided to go to Humboldt county. I was told that Eureka was a thrifty little city and the center of the great redwood forests. As I had always lived in a country where there was timber and hills I thought I would feel more at home if I settled in such a place and I arrived in Eureka on the 5th of May, 1884. I worked there for a while in the woods and in saw mills until I had earned sufficient money to get a small law library and some office furniture. Having secured enough to get started I bought my library, furnished my office and commenced the practice of law. At that time Eureka was a very prosperous community. There was considerable litigation and in a very short time I had worked myself into a very good practice which continued to grow as time rolled on.

In 1896 I became a candidate for the state senate from the First Senatorial District and was elected for a term of four years. In 1902 I became a candidate for Congress from the First Congressional District of California and was elected and served through the Fifty-eighth and Fifty-ninth congresses. While I was in Washington I was a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Judge Jenkins, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., was chairman of that committee.

My life in Washington was very pleasant. I met there Miss Anna Smith, who was then employed in the Interior Department. She was my teacher in Sparta for many years in the primary, intermediate, and high school grades. I also met Henry Casson, sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives, and William Kern, who lived in Sparta a number of years ago and who will be remembered by all the old settlers. I also had the pleasure of again meeting my old chum and schoolmate, John Esch, who at that time was, and is now, one of the most prominent and highly respected members of the House of Representatives.

In 1906 I was elected governor of the State of California I have had four children, two boys and two girls. My oldest boy died about eight years ago. The youngest boy, James, is now nearly eleven. J. N. Gillett.

C. W. Bunn, the son of Judge Romanzo Bunn, who moved to Tomah with his father in 1861, at which time he was six years of age. He attended the public schools of Sparta and from there, in 1870, went to the University of Wisconsin, graduating there, B. S., in 1874, and from the law school in 1875. He then moved to La Crosse, where he lived until 1885 and was a member of the firm of Cameron, Losey & Bunn, which firm afterwards became Losey & Bunn, upon the retirement of Mr. Cameron. In 1885 he removed to St. Paul, forming a partnership with J. W. Lusk, who formerly had lived at Reidsburg, Wis., under the firm name of Lusk & Bunn, which was succeeded by the firm Lusk, Bunn & Hadley and afterwards by Bunn & Hadley. In 1896 he became the general counsel of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, which position he still holds.

Frank Fredrick Oster was born at Sparta, Wis., June 3, 1860, his parents being Michael Peter Oster and Magdalene Oster (nee Titus). Attended the public schools of Sparta and graduated from the Sparta high school in June, 1876. Entered the University of Wisconsin the same fall and graduated therefrom in June, 1882, with the degree of bachelor of letters. Read law with Morrow & Masters and was admitted to the bar in 1885. While reading law, was elected justice of the peace and police judge (two offices) for the term of two years, served one year, resigned and, in the fall of 1886 removed to California, where he has since resided. On the organization of the city of Colton, in 1887, he was appointed its first city attorney and held that office until 1892, when he resigned. In 1890 he formed law part-

nership with W. J. Curtis, at San Bernardino, under the name of Curtis & Oster, but continued to reside at Colton until January 1, 1893, when, on taking office as district attorney of San Bernardino county, he removed to the city of San Bernardino—the county seat. Served two years as district attorney, declined renomination which was offered him. In 1895 he was nominated and elected judge of the Superior Court of San Bernardino county for the term of six years; was reelected in 1901 and again in 1907, the last time without opposition either in convention or at the polls. Still holds that office. In politics he has always been a Republican. He was married at Colton, Cal., October 15, 1891, to Miss Elsie M. Donald and has one child—a son named Donald Titus Oster, now 17 years old.

He is a Mason, Knight Templar and Shriner, belongs also to the Elks and Knights of Pythias. He is active in all public affairs. Secured $20,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a library at San Bernardino, was first president of the San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce, and was chairman of the committee appointed to prepare and was the principal author of the present Juvenile Court Law of California, generally believed to be the most advanced measure of its kind in existence. He was also chairman of the campaign committee which recently sought to raise $75,000 for a Y. M. C. A. at San Bernardino and succeeded in raising donations aggregating nearly twice that amount.

Randolph A. Richards was born at Milwaukee, Wis., January 5, 1863; in 1867 his parents moved to Tomah, his father, Dr. J. F. Richards, there entering upon the practice of medicine.

He attended the public schools at Tomah, graduating from the high school with the class of 1882; was the valedictorian of his class. Soon after graduating he entered the law office of Hon. George Graham as student and clerk; he passed the examination of the State Board at Milwaukee and was admitted to the bar December 28, 1887; his practice has been principally confined to this county. While living at Tomah he served as city attorney several terms and as district attorney one term and was a member of the Board of Education of Tomah for four years and served on the county board for three years.

He was one of the organizers of Company K, Third Regiment W. N. G., being mustered in as a corporal with the Company May 28, 1884; was elected second lieutenant in 1886 and captain in 1887; he commanded Company K from September 5, 1887, until his promotion to the rank of major in 1897; during this term he was instrumental in causing the erection of the armory.

Upon receiving his commission as major he was assigned to the command of the Third Battalion, consisting of companies A, Neillsville; D, Mauston; F, Portage, and G, Wausau; upon the breaking out of the Spanish-American war was mustered into the United States service with his regiment, the Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in command of the same battalion. Served throughout the campaign in Porto Rico, coming home with his regiment and was mustered out of the United States service January 14, 1899.

In January he moved to Sparta and formed a partnership with D. F. Jones, which continued until the death of Mr. Jones. Later he associated with him J. J. Bowler and upon the dissolution of this firm the firm of Richards & Rice was formed with Z. S. Rice, which continued about two years; since which Mr. Richards has practiced alone.

Upon the reorganization of the Third Regiment after the Spanish-American war he was commissioned major and assigned to command of the First Battalion, companies B, La Crosse; K, Tomah; L, Sparta, and M, La Crosse; on May 6, 1910, he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel, which rank he still holds.

Clark M. Rosecrantz was born in Mauston, Juneau county, June 23, 1869, and removed from there to McHenry county, Illinois, in 1873. He went to Sparta in 1885 and attended public school one year. He then went to Carroll College, Waukesha, Wis., to fit for the university; entered the University of Wisconsin in September, 1889, and graduated with the degree of B. L. in 1893, and graduated from the law school at the University of Wisconsin in 1894. Shortly afterwards he entered the office of Sullivan & Cromwell, counselors at law, offices at Forty-fifth and Wall streets, New York City, and remained there until September, 1896, when he came to Milwaukee and joined Charles P. Spooner and Charles H. George in the practice of law under the firm name of Spooner, Rosecrantz & George; this firm continued until about 1900 when Mr. George retired from the firm. Shortly after Mr. George's retirement, Mr. Willett M. Spooner joined the firm and continued for about a year under the firm name of Spooner, Rosecrantz & Spooner; after Mr. Willett M. Spooner's retirement from the firm Charles P. Spooner continued under the firm name of Spooner & Rosecrantz until 1896 when Spooner left Milwaukee to engage in the practice of law at Seattle, Wash. Mr. Rosecrantz continued the practice alone until May, 1910, when the firm of Van Dyke, Rosecrantz, Shaw & Van Dyke was formed, which still continues.

Mr. Rosecrantz has for a great many years been the general attorney of the Milwaukee Light & Traction Company, which control the street car lines in that city and several interurban lines.

M. E. Powell was born at Farmsville, Cattaraugus county, New York, April 11, 1840, and came to Sparta in 1853; resided on a farm until 1858 when he commenced the study of law in the office of L. W. Graves, which continued until the time of his enlistment in the First Wisconsin Battery of Light Artillery at La Crosse in 1861. He served throughout his term of three years and was mustered out in 1864, then returned to Sparta and completed his legal studies in the office of Hon. Romanzo Bunn and was admitted to practice by Judge Edwin Flint, September 25, 1865; he removed to Redwood Falls, Minn., in 1867 and there practiced law for about forty years; he has retired from active practice and is now enjoying the fruits of his labor at Redwood Falls.

John Anderson was born at Fox Lake, Wis., January 22, 1855, his family soon removing to Tomah. He attended the schools at Tomah and Sparta and later graduated from the University of Wisconsin. He taught the Mauston High School for two years as principal, came to Sparta and studied law in the office of Morrow & Masters; was admitted to the bar and began practice at Chippewa Falls, soon afterwards being elected county judge, which office he held for twelve years; was at one time city attorney and mayor of Chippewa Falls. He died March 25, 1911.

Almon A. Helms was born in the town of Norfolk, St. Lawrence county, state of New York, October 18, 1846. Received a common school education in the schools of the counties of St. Lawrence and Franklin, in that state.

After he became about 14 years of age he worked at farming summers and taught school two winters in the district schools of the state of New York. Came to Wisconsin in the spring of 1866, locating at Durand, in Pepin county, and resided there until the spring of 1874. While at Durand he worked one summer in the Knopp, Stout & Co. saw mill, clerked in a drug store one summer, clerked on a steamboat on the Chippewa river four summers, taught in the county schools four winters and two summers, read law with Hon. H. E. Houghton one winter.

He moved to Tomah with his family in March, 1874, entering the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway as a clerk in the Tomah depot, remaining there about a year and a half; afterwards entering the employ of the Wisconsin Valley

Company until January 1, 1876, at which time he entered the office of Hon. George Graham as clerk and student. He was admitted to the bar by Hon. Romanzo Bunn, circuit judge, in September, 1876, entering into partnership with Judge Graham, which continued until August, 1881. He removed to Osseo, Wis., in September, 1881, and from there to Merrill, Wis., in May, 1882, entering into partnership with S. M. Hoyt, which continued until 1885. He was elected county judge of Lincoln county, serving one term, and was elected municipal judge in 1891, and has been the incumbent of the office as municipal and superior court judge ever since. Served as mayor of the city of Merrill for one year May 1, 1887, to May 1, 1888; is now a member of the Board of Education of the Merrill schools and has been for some time.

Charles W. Meadows was born at Trenton, N. J., February 24, 1847; in the fall of 1855 his parents moved to Monroe county, locating in the town of Leon and meeting with their full share of the hardships and inconveniences which fell to the lot of the pioneers of early days. At the breaking out of the Civil War his two older brothers, William H. and Thomas E., enlisted and went to the front, leaving him at home with his father, mother and little sister.

However, early in January, 1864, although not yet seventeen years of age, being five feet seven inches tall and weighing one hundred and twenty-five pounds, passed him into the service and he enlisted and served with his two brothers until the close of the war; he enlisted in Company A of the Third Cavalry and joined his company at Fort Curtis, Mo., where the troops of which he was attached were engaged in contesting with Price, Shelby and Quantrell as to who should occupy that part of the country. From the time he joined the company until he was mustered out, September, 1865, he saw a great deal of service, chiefly scouting and escort duty, but also quite a battle of sharp fighting during the campaign against Price in the fall of 1864, taking part in several battles where from fifteen to twenty thousand cavalry engaged on a side.

In the summer of 1878 he began the study of law in the office of W. J. Hahn, Lake City, Minn., and in the fall of the same year entered the office of Morrow & Masters at Sparta and was admitted to the bar there by Judge Newman at the October term of the circuit court in 1880; he remained with Morrow & Masters until the spring of 1881 when he married Miss Edna L. Irish, at Viroqua, when, in company with S. M. Hoyt, also a student

of Morrow & Masters, opened a law office at Merrill, Wis.; when there, he states, they practiced "economy" for several months, when, owing to the death of his father, he returned to Sparta, remaining there until the following spring and then removed to Barron county, which he has since called his home, although he spent a year or two in Georgia and four years in Washington, D. C.

In 1901 he was elected county judge of Barron county and at the present time is serving his third term in that capacity.

Mr. Meadows was in Sparta during the days of J. N. Gillett and he states that his first lawsuit was tried in the winter of 1881 and that if he had known that he was fighting against the future governor of the state of California it is quite probable, he says, that he would not have gone into the case, as Governor Gillett was at that time a student in the office of Bleekman & Bloomingdale and the case referred to was also the time which Gillett had the honor to try as his maiden effort. As Mr. Meadows very tritely phrased it: "It was a horse trade case and I had not a bit of evidence and what was still worse my client had no money; besides, Jim, like the red nose man in 'Pickwick,' had the 'gift of the gab werry gallopin,' and he just 'woke the cathedral music of the universe' in trying the case, entirely submerging my penny whistle, and of course I lost, but I do not believe Jim has collected his judgment yet."

Charles W. Graves, of Viroqua, was born at East Aurora, Erie county, New York, on November 29, 1854; is the oldest son of Lewis W. Graves. His mother's maiden name was Mary J. Walds. In 1856 his parents removed to Sparta, where Mr. Graves spent his years until 1879, receiving a common high school education in the Sparta schools. In 1874 he began the study of law in his father's office and in January, 1876, was admitted to the bar at Sparta before Judge Romanzo Bunn. He began practice in Sparta and in 1876 was associated with Fred T. Condit and later (1877-78) with A. E. Bleekman. In 1876 Mr. Graves was town clerk of the town of Sparta. In May, 1879, he removed to Viroqua, forming a law copartnership with Col. C. M. Butt, of that city, which continued for fifteen years. During the years 1891-1892-1893 he served as secretary of the State Board of World's Fair Managers in connection with the Chicago World's Fair and during these three years gave nearly his entire time to the duties of the office. In May, 1894, he was appointed county judge of Vernon county and served until January 1, 1898. Since then he has practiced law in Viroqua and is still in active practice.

In 1875 he married Miss Ida Reas, of Sparta, four children being born to them, viz., Earl W. Graves, R. B. Graves, of Sparta, Allan M. Graves and Mrs. S. M. Coffland. In 1897 Mrs. Graves died, and in the fall of 1899 he married Miss Nettie McMichael, of Viroqua.

E. R. Bowler was born in the town of LaFayette, Monroe county, Wisconsin, on September 25, 1869. He attended the Bush Prairie school, which was known as one of the leading district schools of Monroe county. He afterward attended the Sparta high school; after completing the course he was appointed to the position of railway mail clerk under the United States Civil Service Act, and served in that capacity for a period of about three years, his principal route during that time being between Chicago and Minneapolis. He left the railway mail service to enter the University of Wisconsin, and when taking the academic course he belonged to the Philomathea Debating Society, as well as other prominent debating societies at the University of Wisconsin, and was chosen as one of the joint debators to represent the University of Wisconsin in joint debate between that institution and the university of the state of Minnesota. His associates in this debate were Mr. E. A. Evans, of Baraboo, and Mr. W. J. Kalaher, Milwaukee, and with them he won the first debate that had been won from the University of Minnesota in a number of years. He completed the law course at the University of Wisconsin in 1896, after which time he was employed in the office of D. F. Jones, who was then United States district attorney for the western district of Wisconsin. In February, 1898, he formed a partnership with his brother, T. M. Bowler, and under the partnership name of Bowler & Bowler they entered into the practice of law at the city of Sheboygan, Wis. His advancement as a lawyer was very rapid, and he has been recognized throughout the state as one of the leading lawyers. He has been engaged from time to time in some of the most important litigations in the eastern part of the state. During the last sessions of the legislature he has represented large interests before that body in framing legislation, he having represented the State Bankers' Association of the State of Wisconsin; State Manufacturers' Association of the State of Wisconsin, as well as many other large interests.

He, together with his brother, T. M. Bowler, who comprise the firm of Bowler & Bowler at Sheboygan, are enjoying the confidence of the entire community, and have a very large practice in their profession in that section of the state. He was united

in marriage in July, 1900, to Gertrude Edmondson, of Albany, Mo., and to them have been born three children, Madeline, Harold and Gertrude.

T. M. Bowler was born in the town of LaFayette, Monroe county, Wisconsin, on August 26, 1871. He attended the district school during his early boyhood, and thereafter attended the high school in the city of Sparta, and taught school in several parts of Monroe county, after which he attented normal school, and shortly after being a graduate of the normal school in 1892, was elected county superintendent of schools of Monroe county on the Democratic ticket, he being one of the few Democrats elected to county office at that time. During his term as county superintendent he established the summer school for teachers in this county, which has been conducted yearly ever since, and has been a great help to the common schools of this county. He was defeated for reelection in 1894, on account of the large Republican majority in the county, and at the expiration of his term as county superintendent on January 1, 1895, entered the law school at the University of Wisconsin, and finished that course with his brother, E. R. Bowler, in June, 1896. He was excused from taking final examinations in the law school on account of his high class records, and in February, 1898, he entered the practice of law at the city of Sheboygan, Wis., in partnership formed with his brother, E. R. Bowler. He was elected city attorney of the city of Sheboygan in the spring of 1899, and held that office for a period of four years. During this time the firm of Bowler & Bowler had become employed by and represented large interests, such as the Chicago & North-Western Railway Company, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, the Sheboygan Railway & Electric Company, as well as other large interests, and for this reason he declined to accept further political office, and has since that time devoted his entire attention to those interests which his firm represent.

He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Fraternal Order of Eagles, and has held the highest office in all those orders, and with his brother, E. R. Bowler, enjoys a very successful practice. He has succeeded from a business standpoint, at this time being president of the Citizens' Telephone Exchange, and is interested in a financial way in many other large interests in Sheboygan. He married a Monroe county girl, Miss Mary Ebert, Tomah, Wis., and one child was born, Dorothy, aged eleven years.

James J. Bowler was born in the town LaFayette, in Monroe

county, on the 9th day of March, 1877. He obtained his common school education in the Bush Prairie schools, and entered the Sparta high school in 1890, and graduated therefrom in 1894. Upon graduation from the Sparta high school he taught school in Monroe county for three years, being principal of the Tunnel City and Cashton graded schools. Cashton school became a high school the year Mr. Bowler gave up the vocation of teaching to enter the law department of the state university at Madison, which he did in the year 1897. He received his degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1900. While at the university, "Jim" was prominent both in debating circles and in the management and direction of the athletic affairs at the university, being selected as a member of the joint debate of the Missouri intercollegiate debate and also acting in the capacity of baseball manager and assistant football manager.

Mr. Bowler, upon being admitted to the practice of law, entered the law office of Jones & Richards, at Sparta, and shortly after the death of Mr. Jones became the junior member of the firm of Richards & Bowler, which partnership continued until January 1, 1907, when he entered into partnership with his brother George under the firm name of Bowler & Bowler, which partnership continued until January 1, 1908. George then went to Sheboygan with his older brothers Ed and Tim, and Jim engaged in the practice of law at Wausau, Wis., where he remained until the first of December, 1911, when he removed to Milwaukee, Wis., where he is now engaged in the practice of his profession.

George J. Bowler was born in the town of LaFayette, Monroe county, Wisconsin, July 19, 1879. He attended the district school of that town and later entered the high school in the city of Sparta, graduating from that school in June, 1895. He then taught school in the county of Monroe, afterward conducting with his brother, John Bowler, the Bowler Brothers' Fruit Farm, which has been generally known as one of the pioneer fruit farms of this section of the state. He later entered the University of Wisconsin, and graduated from the law department of that institution in June, 1903, after which he entered the employ of the firm of Richards & Bowler at Sparta, Wis., and continued in their employ until January 1, 1905, at which time he, with his brother, James J. Bowler, formed a partnership and practiced law at Sparta under the firm name of Bowler & Bowler until January 1, 1908, at which time he went to Sheboygan, Wis., and has been associated there with his brothers, E. R. Bowler

and T. M. Bowler, until January 1, 1912. He is now practicing law in the city of Milwaukee, now being associated with the firm of McGee & Jeger, Nos. 1126-1130 Wells Building, of that city.

William F. Sawyer was born in La Crosse county about two miles northwest of what is now the town of Rockland and attended the country school near Big Creek, afterwards attending Viroqua high school for a time and then came to Sparta, attending the high school there and graduated in the same class with John J. Esch, Frank Oster and others. After leaving the high school he taught school for a time and then attended Valparaiso university where he obtained the degree of A. B. and afterwards entered the Colombia Law School in New York City, finally completing his legal education at the Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, which is a part of the University of California, where the degree of LL. B. was conferred upon him. He was then admitted to practice law and located at San Francisco, where he has practiced for over twenty years.

At the time of the great earthquake and fire in April, 1906, he had his offices in the Mills building, which was burned and in which he also resided in apartments. He saved some of the records and a few books from his office at the time of the fire, but in order to do so, he had to move them five times and was from four o'clock in the afternoon of the day of the earthquake until the forenoon of the next day in saving what few things were not burned. Immediately after the fire he was in doubt as to what to do, but finally decided to establish an office again and he found that since the earthquake and fire there has been more legal business in the city than there was prior to that time. Mr. Sawyer engages in the general practice of law, except that he does not take criminal cases; and gives special attention to the law of real estate and corporations.

For about ten years Mr. A. C. Freeman, George E. Bates and Mr. Sawyer had offices together, Mr. Freeman being the author of "Freeman on Judgments" and the editor of the "American Decisions" and of the "American State Reports."

Mr. Sawyer is unmarried; and is a member of the Union League Club of San Francisco and takes an active part in political matters. He is interested in the growth of the city and believes that San Francisco, when fully rebuilt, will be one of the finest cities of its size in the world.

Ray B. Graves was born at Sparta, Wis., October 1, 1878, is the son of C. W. Graves; his parents moved to Viroqua soon after his birth or during early boyhood and his early education

was received in that city, graduating from the Viroqua high school in 1897. He studied law in the office of C. W. Graves and passing the state bar examination successfully, was admitted to the bar August 28, 1898. He came to Sparta and entered the office of Morrow & Masters in January, 1899. After the death of Judge Morrow, the firm of Masters & Graves was formed and some time later the firm became Masters, Graves & Masters, by the admission of H. J. Masters. Mr. Graves is a successful trial lawyer and has been engaged in much of the important litigation in the county, notably being selected by the court and appointed to assist the district attorney in the Montgomery murder trial.

John G. Graham was born at Tomah, September 2, 1875, and is the son of Col. George Graham. He received his early education in the schools of Tomah, graduating from the high school in June, 1893; he afterwards took a two-years' collegiate course at the University of Wisconsin. He studied for three years at the law school of the University of Wisconsin and then entered his father's office, being successful in passing the state bar examination and was admitted to practice January 1, 1900. He commenced the practice of law with his father the same year under the firm name of Graham & Graham, which is still the firm name, though Colonel Graham has retired from active practice. Mr. Graham has won good success at the bar and is considered one of the growing young men in the profession.

Harry J. Masters was born at Sparta, Wis., May 29, 1880, and is the son of Judge C. M. Masters. He was educated in Sparta, graduating from the high school with the class of 1899, afterwards entering the University of Wisconsin, taking up the study of law; graduated in 1904, and after a period of rest, took up the practice of his profession as the junior member of the firm of Masters, Graves & Masters. He is a close student, endowed with a good stock of common sense, and is one of the coming young members of the bar.

Thorwald P. Abel, district attorney of Sparta. Among the well-known attorneys of Monroe county is he whose name heads this sketch. His parents, John J. and Laura (Johnson) Abel, immigrated from Denmark, their native country, to the United States in the sixties, and settled at Kenosha, Wis., where our subject was born April 24, 1878. Among the many responsible positions held by the senior Abel may be mentioned that of United States inspector of immigration at Portal, N. D.

The preliminary education of Thorwald P. was obtained at

the Kenosha public schools, which was supplemented with a thorough course in the law department of the Wisconsin State University at Madison, where he was graduated with the class of 1902. In October of that year he located at Sparta and commenced the practice of his chosen profession, which he has since followed with gratifying success. In 1908 he was elected district attorney for Monroe county, and so well did he discharge the duties of the office that he was re-elected in 1910 for a second term of two years.

In fraternal and social matters he is an active participant, being a member of the Knights of Pythias order and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was united in marriage on February 8, 1905, to Miss Charlotte C. Kent, daughter of William and Florence (Cooper) Kent, of Beloit, Kan.

Zelotus S. Rice, attorney at law, and one of the substantial citizens of Sparta, is a native of Monroe county, and was born at Wilton, August 7, 1881. His father, Mr. J. P. Rice, who is prominent in business circles throughout the county, and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary A. O'Leary, are also natives of Wisconsin.

Mr. Rice received his education in the public and high schools of Sparta, graduating from the latter with the class of 1901. He spent a year in the law department of the University of Minnesota and finished his course at the University of Wisconsin, graduating with the class of 1904. After completing his law studies, he located at Sparta in 1905 and formed a partnership with Col. R. A. Richards in the practice of his profession, the firm name being Richards & Rice. This partnership continued for about three years—1908, at which time it was dissolved and Mr. Rice moved into the Knudson building, on Oak street, where he has since carried on a general practice on his own account, and has been eminently successful. He is serving his third term as city attorney of the city of Sparta, and has made for himself an enviable record during his incumbency. He holds the office of the local examiner of the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Rice is one of that coterie of young men of the Sparta high school who were developed under the tutelage of Professor Doty. His ambition to become a lawyer was manifested early and met with the approval of his father, whose knowledge of the law is broad because of his work as an abstractor and county officer, and his success in his home city has been well earned and notable. During the past four or five years he has attracted

to his office a great deal of the commercial and real estate law business of the better sort. His practice is firmly established and is more extensive than his county. He has the appearance and demeanor of a lawyer and is endowed with a great brain and much talent.

Mr. Rice has, up to this time, given his entire attention to his law practice and avoided the many temptations and opportunities to enter politics, although he has been twice elected to the office of supervisor from the Fourth ward of the city of Sparta, without opposition and without his having sought the office, and has served on the county board and has been one of the leaders there and a great power for good.

CHAPTER XLIX.

THE COUNTY COURT.

Everything in municipal affairs has its beginning and the establishment of the county government by law brought with it the inauguration of the county or probate court; naturally, the duties of the judge were very light for a number of years, how light is best indicated by the fact that A. H. Blake, the first county judge, received no pay for his services until 1857, and at a special meeting of the county board held in March of that year, the judge presented a bill for his services from May, 1854, to March, 1857, being for holding court thirty-one days at $2.00 per day, a total of $62.00, which was allowed. In 1858 the per diem was increased by an act of the legislature from $2.00 per day to $5.00, and this, with some fees provided for, made the office pay a little better.

In 1862, the records and files of the office having accumulated to such an extent as to require some method of filing, G. E. Pratt, who was then county judge, asked the county board for an appropriation to procure a filing case. The board, at its November session of that year, passed a resolution, in response to this request, appropriating the sum of $3.75 for that purpose, authorizing the judge to have a filing case made to cost not more than that sum. To us today that looks ridiculous, but was undoubtedly ample for the time and the amount of business to be done. The jurisdiction of the court in this county has never been enlarged to include the trial of minor civil and criminal cases, as is the fact in some counties, such enlarged jurisdiction being conferred by a special act of the legislature.

Principally a court of probate for the administration of estates of deceased persons, the law prescribes additional powers, including the sentencing of offenders who plead guilty in certain cases; the hearing of preliminary examinations to bind over offenders in cases beyond the jurisdiction of a justice of the peace, to the circuit court for trial; the examination of insane persons and paupers, committing them to the proper institutions, together with all the powers of a court commissioner as to performing marriages, taking depositions and the like.

With the lapse of years, and especially in the last fifteen years, the work has grown to such an extent as to occupy nearly the whole time of the judge; the salary is now $1,000 per year with an allowance for clerk hire; terms are held twice a month, one of them being held at Tomah, under an act of the legislature passed in 1911 permitting that to be done; it is often necessary for the court to hold special terms, which at times average more than one a month besides the regular terms. In the fifty-seven years of its existence, the court has had ten judges: A. H. Blake, George E. Pratt, L. B. Noyes, W. W. Jackson, George Graham, T. D. Steele, C. M. Masters, W. M. Graham, S. W. Button and Robert B. McCoy. It is unfortunate that there is no data nor any persons now at hand from which can be procured the account of the lives of some of these judges, notably A. H. Blake, G. E. Pratt and L. B. Noyes. Here are given sketches of the lives of those judges which we have been able to obtain.

William Wallace Jackson was born in Ontario county, state of New York, in 1813; he moved to Adrian, Mich., when about seventeen years of age, where he resided until the breaking out of the Black Hawk War; he enlisted as a soldier in that war, but before the troops to which he was attached reached the scene of conflict the war over and he was discharged and returned home. He came to Wisconsin in 1853, locating first at Hartford, in Washington county; a year later, in April, 1854, he came to Monroe county and settled in what is now the town of Adrian.

At this time the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway was pushing its line westward, not having yet reached Tomah. Mr. Jackson believed that the line would come through the town of Adrian in order to avoid tunneling the ridge at what is now Tunnel City; in fact, the engineers of the company contemplated this route for some time, as there is a natural pass through the dividing ridge which would obviate the necessity for a tunnel. Acting upon this belief, which was well founded at the time, Mr. Jackson chose a good location and platted the village of Jacksonville in the town of Adrian, the plat of which is still in existence; the proposed village was twelve miles from Sparta, and about four miles west of Tomah; the railroad did not come that way, however, and the village of Jacksonville became a memory. Early in 1855 Mr. Jackson built a saw mill in the town of Adrian and also one in the town of Tomah, the latter being located east of the village of Tomah, about two miles, at a place which was

named "Limerick," which consisted of the mill and a few shacks for the employees. This place, with the removal of the saw mill also passed into oblivion with the decay and destruction of its buildings.

Judge Jackson was admitted to the bar in 1858, but did not follow the law as a profession, devoting himself almost wholly to agriculture and engaging occasionally in politics. He was very prominent in county affairs, and in 1858 was appointed county judge by Governor Randall, and was re-elected for the full term. He served as chairman of the town board of Adrian for fourteen years and occupied an influential position in the board of supervisors in his time; he served in the legislatures of 1862-63 and 1874-75.

Approaching the age limit, when rest was desirable, Judge Jackson, a few years before he died, built a home in the city of Tomah and moved from his farm with his family, where he lived until the time of his death. Judge Jackson was truly one of the pioneers who helped to hew civilization out of the wilderness in Wisconsin, a broad minded, big hearted man, a leader in his community, typical of that splendid manhood to which this county and state owes so much.

Charles M. Masters. The senior member of the firm of Masters, Graves & Masters, has had a distinguished career, and made an enviable reputation in his chosen calling. He has practiced law in this county something like thirty-nine years, giving good service to his clients and gaining the respect of the community in which he lives.

Judge Masters was born in Springfield, Mass., October 1, 1841, was educated at the high school, and at Amherst and Wilbraham academies. He taught school in Connecticut for two years and then removed to La Crosse, Wis., where he engaged in the insurance business for about two years. In 1865 he located at Sparta and engaged in the book and stationery business, and while engaged in that business he read law with L. W. Graves; he was admitted to the bar in 1871 and in 1872 formed a partnership with Joseph M. Morrow. In 1878 he was elected county judge of this county, and was re-elected in 1882, serving in that office for eight years.

Judge Masters is a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of Wisconsin Consistory, is a past master of Valley Lodge, No. 60, Free and Accepted Masons, and was a member of the local lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which order he became grand master of the grand lodge of the state of Wis-

consin, and was also elected supreme grand master of the supreme lodge of that order of the United States and Canada. After the death of Judge Morrow, Judge Masters formed a partnership with R. B. Graves, and later on took into the firm his son, H. J. Masters.

Judge Masters was married on December 7, 1865, to Miss Ella Seely, of Bangor, Wis., who died May 12, 1882. Two children were born to them, Louise B., who died in 1878, and Harry J., now junior partner in the firm. In January, 1911, he married Mrs. Alice Pharis, of Syracuse, N. Y., and during the fall of the year purchased what is known as the Dr. Gage residence, on Water street, in the city of Sparta, where he now resides.

Seth W. Button, was born in Michigan in 1836. He came with his parents to Green county, Wisconsin, in 1842, and has resided in the state ever since, except two years. Mr. Button's father died in 1844, leaving him an orphan at a tender age. He made his home mostly with a brother on a farm, doing farm work for several years, attending a district school occasionally, school advantages being very meager in those days and in that new country, and he made little progress in his studies. When sixteen years of age he went on foot to a place just east of Whitewater, Wis., where the first railroad in the state was being built from Milwaukee to Prairie Du Chien, and got work excavating for the road bed until late in the fall; returned to Decatur, Wis., and as soon as he could do so began attending district school for the balance of the winter and working at any odd job about town to earn a livelihood; studied evenings and at spare times, but owing to the fact that he had to earn his own living, he found himself behind most students in his studies.

During the summer of 1854 he worked at the carpenter's trade at Stillwater, Minn.; the next spring, being then nineteen years of age, he bought a breaking team of five yoke of oxen, mostly on credit, hired a boy younger than himself, and started from Green county across the country, past Madison, Devil's Lake and so on along the ridge road just south of Sparta down into the valley and on to La Crosse, ferried his outfit across the river on a one-horse ferry, slept in the swamp on the west side of the river that night; in the morning he got his team together and steered his course to the country about twelve miles southwest of Red Wing, Minn., and in that vicinity he followed the business of breaking prairie during the summer, sleeping on the ground and cooking his own meals, and rustling his cattle

in the high wet grass, going to work mornings wet to the shoulders with the heavy dews; in the late fall he sold his outfit, returning to Green county, paid his debts, and with a party of other young people started a select school and hired a teacher for the winter, studied hard, and finally in the district schools and Beloit college he fitted himself for teaching, this work and carpentering work he followed, in the meantime keeping up his studies and also the study of law; he finally passed a successful examination and was admitted to the bar in 1860 and opened a law office at Prescott, Wis.; the Civil War breaking out in 1861, he closed his office in the late summer of that year, enlisted in Company F. First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Starkweather's regiment; went to the front and soon was in the thick of the fight. For gallant conduct he was rapidly promoted to the grade of sergeant, first sergeant, orderly sergeant, sergeant major of the regiment and second lieutenant of his company, and finally first lieutenant by brevet; had command of his company while still a non-commissioned officer in the battle of Perrysville, Ky., and Stone River, Tenn.; was slightly wounded at Perryville by a spent ball. In the battle of Chickamauga, Tenn., he was severely wounded, and this ended his service at the front. As soon as he was able he was put on duty as a military conductor on the railroad from Nashville to Louisville and from Nashville to Johnsonville, Tenn. Judge Button's regiment, the First Wisconsin Infantry, was always with Gen. G. H. Thomas' corps, and as has been stated, was with him at the battle of Chickamauga, where this gallant old fighter was named the "Rock of Chickamauga." Lieutenant Button was in many fights during his military service and has had many experiences, not only in military, but in civil life.

Just before the battle of Chickamauga, while the forces to which he belonged were vigorously pushing the rebels under General Bragg back to the Tennessee river, the rebels burned the bridge across Elk river, in front of the Union forces. This river must be crossed; it was badly swollen by rains, and was, in fact, a raging torrent; a force under General Reausau was sent some distance up the river to effect a crossing. Lieutenant Button's company was selected to effect a crossing, which must be done under a galling fire. Lieutenant Button was the first man to reach the opposite bank. As fast as they crossed the members of his company were formed in line and began pushing the rebels back, when he received word that some of his men were in trouble and probably drowning, he put the company under

charge of a sergeant, hastened back to the river and alone and unaided he carried out eight drowning men, exhibiting a strength and energy which caused his soldiers to dub him the "Long Pinery Man." It seems that Mr. Button was fated to be mixed up with floods, for after his war service was ended he returned to Galesville, Wis., in the spring of 1866. In that year a terrific flood swept away all the property and buildings in the lower table land of the village and Judge Button and a Mr. Wyman carried out of the raging torrent fifteen persons and saved their lives.

After the close of his military service in the army he took employment in Capt. James' quartermaster department at Johnsonville, Tenn., as chief clerk, and was present with his wife and a young child when the rebel General Forrest attacked and destroyed the place, with all its Government stores, buildings and gunboats, the lieutenant and his family having a narrow escape. After the war was over he took up the study of law, attending the law school at Cincinnati. After receiving his diploma he opened a law office at Galesville, Wis., and in the fall of 1867 he formed a partnership with the late A. W. Newman, which continued five years. Judge Newman was eletced circuit judge and afterwards became a justice of the supreme court. During Mr. Button's residence in Trempealeau county he served seven years as county judge, three years as district attorney, one term in the assembly, and held several other minor offices. After dissolving with Judge Newman, his practice grew to such an extent that from overwork a nervous breakdown ensued, and under the advice of his physician, he turned his law business over to his brother, an attorney, and went to the "Pan-Handle," Texas, to recuperate his health; procured a cattle ranch in the northwestern part of Texas and went to the southeastern part of the state and bought a drove of cattle, hired cowboys, bought ponies, took charge personally of the outfit, and was on the trail over forty days to his ranch, near Fort Mobeita, Tex.; sold out the business that fall and met his family in Topeka, Kan. In the spring following he again went to Texas and went south and purchased another drove of cattle, drove them north to the place selected, and finally, after about four years spent in the business, he closed out and came back to Tomah, Monroe county. Finding himself left far in the rear of other lawyers in law and practice, he applied himself vigorously to study, to familiarize himself with the statutes and court decisions. After a time he opened an office at Tomah, was elected county judge,

holding that office eight years, and moved his family to Sparta, where he still remains. At Sparta he formed a partnership with the late D. F. Jones, which continued about five years. He continued in active practice until a few years ago, when, he, as the late J. G. Saxe said in one of his public addresses, and as Judge Button puts it, "I had the honor to at one time belong to the legal profession, and I had the honor to leave it, too."

Judge Button was a successful practitioner, and has had a long and honorable career in his chosen profession. His favorite sport and one which he still indulges in and which he has kept up for more than a quarter of a century, is an annual trip to the northern woods every fall to hunt deer.

Robert B. McCoy. Robert B. McCoy was born in Kenosha, Wis., in 1867, the following year his parents came to this county and located on a farm in the town of LaFayette, where they resided until 1876, when they came to Sparta.

Judge McCoy graduated from the Sparta high school in 1887, then entered the state university, taking a four years' course, graduating from the law department with the class of 1891. After his graduation he served as assistant secretary of the board of world's fair managers of Wisconsin for two years. This board had charge of Wisconsin exhibits at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago. He edited the Monroe County Democrat for one year for his father, B. E. McCoy, and in 1894 opened an office and began the practice of law at Sparta. He was elected county judge in April, 1897, entered upon the duties of his office in January, 1898. He was re-elected in 1901, 1905 and 1909, and is now serving his fourth consecutive term as county judge.

After the mustering out of the Sparta Rifles, the old Company "I," Third Regiment, Wisconsin, a movement was set on foot to reorganize the company. This Judge McCoy successfully did, and in July, 1896, Company L was mustered into the Wisconsin National Guard. At the breaking out of the Spanish-American War, Company L, in common with the other companies of the Third Regiment, volunteered, and in all 115 men entered the service under the command of Captain McCoy. He served with distinction in the Porto Rican campaign, and upon the cessation of hostilities, on account of urgent business, he resigned and came home October 12, 1898, about a month ahead of his regiment.

May 1, 1899, he reorganized Company L, Third Infantry, W. N. G., and was unanimously elected captain of the company.

Under his command the company was brought to a high state of efficiency, notably in rifle practice. Upon the retirement of Col. W. W. Warren as inspector of rifle practice and upon the recommendation of adjutant general, McCoy was appointed by Governor Davidson as inspector of small arms practice with rank of colonel from March 21, 1907, which position he still holds; the duties of which he has conducted with marked ability. Colonel McCoy has commanded three rifle teams at the national contests, bringing Wisconsin near the top in these matches. While at Camp Perry, Ohio, in command of the Wisconsin team at the national competition, Colonel McCoy was elected as one of the directors of the National Rifle Association, under whose auspices the competitions are conducted. He is still a member of the board of directors. Perhaps the crowning act of his career was bringing about the establishment of the Government military reservation, the story of which appears in another chapter.

George Graham. Mr. Graham was born in Scotland in 1840, and came to this country in 1845 with his family, which settled in Vermont, where he received his early education; graduated from Middlebury college, in that state, took up the study of law, decided to come west, and was admitted to the bar in Juneau county, in 1862. He moved to Sparta and entered upon the practice of his profession, but in the fall of that year enlisted in Company G, Thirty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war. His service won him promotion from the ranks and he was mustered out as captain in command of his company.

In the spring of 1866 Mr. Graham returned to Sparta and afterwards took up his residence in Tomah and the practice of his profession. He served one term as county judge of this county. He still resides at Tomah and has served as postmaster for several years last past. As a lawyer, Mr. Graham has always occupied a high place in the bar of western Wisconsin. In his earlier practice he was pitted against such men as L. W. Graves, J. M. Morrow and S. N. Dickinson. A deep student, he had a thorough knowledge of legal principles and practice, coupled with a keen perception of the salient points of the case on trial, gifted far beyond the ordinary with the command of language and the power to express his thoughts most eloquently, he became an ideal trial lawyer, one of the best. Intensely patriotic, a firm believer in the saying, "In times of peace prepare for war," he gave a practical demonstration of his convictions by organizing

HON. ROBERT B. M'COY

an independent military company at Tomah in 1883, and succeeded in having it mustered into the service of the state of Wisconsin on May 28, 1884, as Company K, Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard. He commanded the company for a number of years, bringing it to a high state of efficiency.

Mr. Graham saw the advantages of the present site of the Wisconsin military reservation, and called the attention of Gen. C. P. Chapman, then adjutant general, to it with the result that the fine camp and maneuver ground was acquired by the state. His efforts, however, were principally directed to rifle practice, which he earnestly promoted among the companies of the Third Regiment, and after his retirement as captain of Company K he was appointed inspector of small arms practice with the rank of colonel on the staff of the governor. Bringing to this work all the enthusiasm and earnestness of which he was capable and brought the attention of the entire national guard of the country to Wisconsin's "shooting regiments," and to his efforts is due the credit of laying the groundwork in rifle practice in the state, and under his administration a high development was attained in this most important work.

Mr. Graham was appointed to the position of inspector of small arms practice January 7, 1895, and served until 1906, when he retired, carrying with him the respect and gratitude of every officer and man in the Wisconsin guard, which has been exemplified in the naming of a trophy which is competed for annually at Camp Douglas, known as the "Graham Trophy." Colonel Graham, like some other people, has "hobbies," and one of them which the editor remembers to have heard him talk about a great many years ago, and that was the improvement of Superior avenue by boulevarding the lower end outside of the business section, in the center, and he has lived to see his early suggestions substantially carried out in the beautiful street as now completed.

CHAPTER L.

THE MEDICAL FRATERNITY.

BY W. B. FORD, M. D.

As far back as history takes us we find that as soon as men began to dwell together in the primitive tribe, there was one of this number who was known as the "Medicine Man." In Biblical times people lived to be much older than now, and were evidently not as much subject to sickness and disease, so our medicine man could serve many, but sooner or later sickness has overtaken all and then they seek the aid of one who knows something of the healing art. In those primitive times the healers sought to cure people by charms and by driving away the evil spirit through noises, and thus they beat on drums and sang songs. This primitive idea has not altogether disappeared to the present day, as witnessed by Dowieism and other cults, who maintain that disease is the work of the devil, who must first be driven out before the person can get well.

Following the idea of charming away disease came the dietetic idea, in which health was to be maintained only through the eating of certain foods and avoiding others. This was exemplified by the Jewish race.

Next we come to the physiologic period, when the functions of the various organs were paramount, and the symptoms they produced were the sole thing to be regarded in treating disease. To a certain extent this is used to the present day, but we have added to it the etiologic period of medicine, in which we endeavor to discover the cause of the disordered function of any organ. This has been made possible only through the vast laboratory researches that have been carried out during the past fifty years, by the discovery of bacteria and by animal experiments to determine the part the bacteria play in man's anatomy. Also in the discovery of the cell or unit of which our body is composed and observing the changes that occur in these cells as the result of disease. Thus it is that medicine has changed from an act to a science. It has not reached the pinacle of an exact science, but it is approaching that goal. When we con-

sider how we have conquered many of the dread diseases, as diphtheria, typhoid fever, malaria, etc., and robbed them of their terror through the knowledge of their cause and the application of the one and the only thing that will destroy that particular cause, then we begin to realize what is being accomplished in modern medicine.

The Panama Canal stands not only as a monument to the skill and energy of American engineers, but even more to the glory of American physicians. DeLessep's failure was not due to a lack of skill or courage on his part, but to yellow fever and malaria. The medical profession has paved the way for this great undertaking by discovering and proving that certain mosquitos are responsible for the spread of both these dread diseases, but not until two loyal and unselfish physicians, Carroll and Lazear, had given their lives to prove this. Today we know that if we destroy the mosquito we can stamp out yellow fever and malaria. As a result of the energies of the American physician the Canal Zone, with its heterogeneous population, has been made more healthy than New York City.

When Monroe county was first organized and began to be settled the etiologic phase of medicine was unknown. All the diseases we now know were known then and were perfectly described except for their cause, and armed with this knowledge the pioneer doctors came into this wilderness and worked hard and faithfully in the endeavor to relieve the suffering of their fellow men. At first it was necessary to send to La Crosse as the nearest place to obtain a doctor. Consequently, the mother of the family applied "home remedies" as long as she could before sending for a doctor, who often came too late. There was, therefore, great rejoicing when the first doctor came into the county and cast his lot with those early pioneers. The people were scattered and drives were long and hard, especially in the winter. In those days there were not the fine roads we have now, but one had to pick his way around stumps, over logs and through creeks. Many times the doctor had to go a foot or on horseback because the roads would not permit the use of a buggy. Without the telephone a man had to drive for the doctor, and if he lived twenty or thirty miles away the doctor could not get there until the next day. Many trips were so long that it required two days to make the trip and return. The people were very poor and were unable to pay more than a very meager compensation or nothing at all for the services rendered. However, those early men cared not for that, they went and did

all they could to relieve the suffering. They often had to act as nurse as well as physician. They sat by the sick bed for long weary hours to see whether the spark of life was going to be snuffed out or would take on added vigor and begin to burn anew. They were the recipients of family secrets and their advice was sought in times of trouble. They healed and soothed the troubled mind, soul, and body, with their cheerful words, kindly advice, or some simple decoction. Is it any wonder that they gained a place in the hearts of the people that could not be supplanted, and as long as they were able to drag one foot were sought, and no one else would do but the old family doctor?

As preachers and lawyers were equally scarce, the doctor was called upon to perform the services of both, and was held to be thoroughly competent. In those days there were no specialists, so the family doctor administered to all ailments. Today certain men specialize on different parts of the body, and become more expert in dealing with that part. They are thus enabled to give the people better service, but in order to do this they have sacrificed much in the love and esteem in which they were held in the hearts of the people. Who would think of going to an eye specialist or an abdominal surgeon with his family troubles and expect sympathy and advice? The days of the old-time family physician are past. To be sure, we still have the general practitioner who looks after the general sickness in the family, and is ready to call the aid of someone especially skilled when needed. Indeed, this must be so, when we consider what is being done all around us. Some wealthy men, as John D. Rockefeller and McCormick, have given large sums of money to establish research laboratories, to equip them, and to pay men to devote their whole lives to the study of one disease, as infantile paralysis, etc.

Some men are devoting their lives and energies to performing and perfecting surgical operations, so that today there is not a single organ of the body that is not the subject of operation. And then there is the pathologist and physiologist, who works in the laboratory experimenting with animals to ascertain the cause of disease and its treatment before applying the same to man (yet there are those who would say do not experiment with animals in order to learn how to save a human life, but rather let man die). When we consider these and the many more departments of medicine, with all the accumulating knowledge it is no wonder that one poor man cannot master them all.

About the only thing that keeps alive the old spark of gratitude and love for the general practitioner is his obstetrics. He who stands beside a woman during her suffering and comforts her and encourages her in her great and holy, yet trying mission, of bringing a new soul into the world endears himself to her in a way that it not easily forgotten or cast aside. What a pleasure it is and what gratitude one receives only he who has had the experience knows.

The doctor's life must be an unselfish one, for how often is he aroused from a sound sleep or disturbed while at a meeting, a social gathering, to go and relieve the suffering. If he is fortunate enough to make a discovery or invent some new instrument he does not hurry to the patent office to protect himself and enrich his purse, but gladly gives his knowledge to his brothers for the good of mankind. This has been handed down to him from the days of Hippocrates that he is in honor bound to impart all good knowledge to his worthy brother practitioners. Neither does he go to the newspaper office that his fame may be heralded abroad, but rather spreads the glad tidings only among those who will be able to use them. And many is the doctor, whose epitaph has overtaken him, long before his good works are known. Grant, Sherman and Napoleon are household names, because they have commanded armies and lead many men to death, while Pasteur, Koch, Virchon, Senn, Billings, and hosts of others, are hardly known, and yet for every life the generals have sacrificed these men have saved hundreds. Few people know what a debt they owe to Lord Lister, when he discovered that by the use of antiseptic, surgical operations could be performed without being followed by the dread hospital gangrene or suppuration. This, together with the use af anaesthesia, has enabled the surgeon to go fearlessly at his task, and thus Darwin's law of the "survival of the fittest" no longer applies.

As there are no large cities in this county, hospitals were slow to make their appearance, and the doctors were compelled to perform many operations in private houses, which they did with the skill and success of their more fortunate brethren at the hospital in the cities.

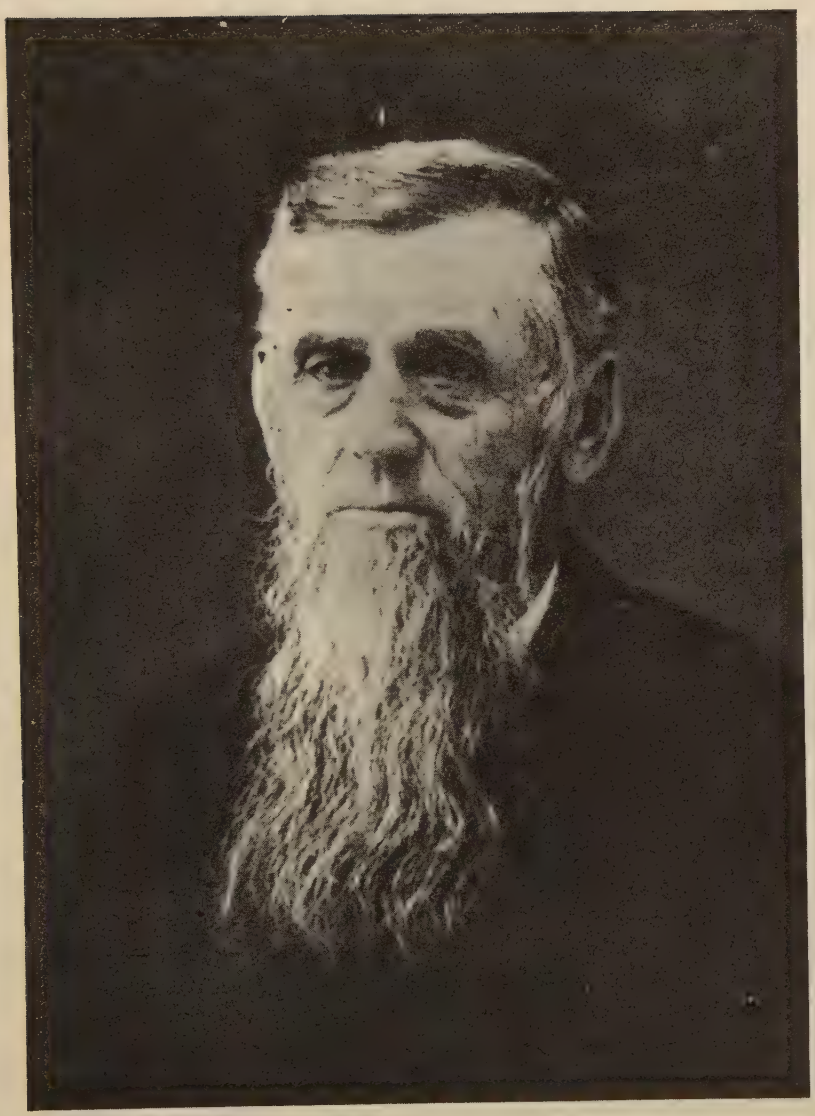
A doctor not only devotes his time and energies to the study of cause and treatment of disease, but places before himself the higher ideal of preventive medicine. Thus, he goes about telling people how to live to avoid sickness. However, they are

very slow to change their habits that they may enjoy better health. If you tell them to eat plainer food and masticate it more thoroughly, so as to avoid dyspepsia, they think they are wasting too much time. If you tell him to live in the sunshine and exercise more they are afraid they will neglect their business. When you tell them to breathe plenty of fresh air and sleep with their windows open at night, they are greatly alarmed lest some dread monster will come in with the "night air," little thinking that after sun down all air is "night air." People are no more ready to harken to our modern physicians than they were to the Great Physician when He said, "Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how oft would I have gathered you under my wings as a hen gathers her chickens, and ye would not."

(The above excellent article is here supplemented by the lives of physicians of the county, living and dead, as far as we have been able to obtain them.—Editor.)

Martin Rockwell Gage, M. D., deceased, who for many years was one of the most prominent and well known physicians of western Wisconsin, was born in Bellona, Yates county, N. Y., in 1825. His father, Martin Gage, was also a native of the Empire state, and by occupation a merchant, which business he successfully followed in the state of New York, where he died at the age of fifty years. Soon after the death of her husband, Mrs. Gage removed to East Saginaw, Mich., and died there at the age of eighty. The Gage family were of English origin, and the ancestors of Dr. Gage were among the early pioneers of New England.

Dr. Gage was one of a family of six children, five brothers and one sister, all of whom lived to a mature age. Mary Ann, the sister, married S. M. Whittaker, and died many years ago. D. W. C. Gage, eldest brother of Dr. Gage, studied law in the office of Judge Folger, of Geneva, N. Y., and after being admitted to the bar, located at East Saginaw, Mich., in 1856, and engaged in the practice of his profession, and there died in 1889. Erasmus D. resided at Geneva, and for many years was in the employ of the New York Central Railway. He entered the army in 1861, as captain of a company in the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Regiment, New York Volunteers. He was seriously wounded in the head which caused him to leave the army for a time, but recovering from his injury he re-entered the army and was placed in command of a regiment and was killed at the battle of Cold Harbor. Charles Carroll Gage was an attorney at law and for a time was engaged in the practice with M. P. Wing at



MARTIN R. GAGE, M. D.

La Crosse. After a brief illness he died at Sparta. Daniel Webster Gage, when eighteen years of age, went to California, and afterwards to Arizona, where he died in 1891.

Dr. Gage received his education in Geneva, N. Y. He began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. E. S. Smith, of Bellona, Yates county, and began his collegiate medical course at the Geneva college. He later attended the Buffalo Medical College, but returned to Geneva, and graduated from the medical department of that college with the class of June 26, 1852. He began practice with his preceptor at Bellona, N. Y., but later went to Coudersport, Pa., where he remained until 1854, when he came to Wisconsin and first located at Beloit, and there resided until he came to Sparta. In August, 1862, he entered the army as surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, remaining with this regiment until the Atlanta campaign, being then ordered on detail duty, and so continued to the close of the war. While in the army he was for a time, in 1863, acting medical director of the military district of Columbus, Ky.; was brigade surgeon in Gen. Nathan Kimball's division on the forced march from Satartia to Snyder's Bluff, Miss., about June 1, 1863, and was present at the seige of Vicksburg, and acting division surgeon of General Vietch's division of Sherman's army during its march from Vicksburg to Meridian, Miss., in 1864. At the close of the war he returned to Sparta and resumed the practice of his profession, in which he engaged for fifty-one years. He was a close student and devoted himself assiduously to his profession, attaining to a position of prominence as one of the most learned and skillful physicians in Wisconsin. He was possessed of a cheerful disposition, was broad minded and liberal in his views, and those traits endeared him to those with whom he came in contact. In 1877 he became associated with Dr. D. C. Beebe, another well known physician of Sparta, under the firm name of Gage and Beebe. Later Dr. W. T. Sarles became connected with the firm, which arrangement continued until 1888, when Dr. Gage withdrew, and was ever after in practice alone.

Before coming to Wisconsin he served as county superintendent of schools in Potter county, Pennsylvania, and was the first county superintendent of schools in Monroe county, under the act of the legislature creating that office, resigning the position when commissioned surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Regiment. He was a member of the Wisconsin State Medical Society, and of the American Medical Association, and was

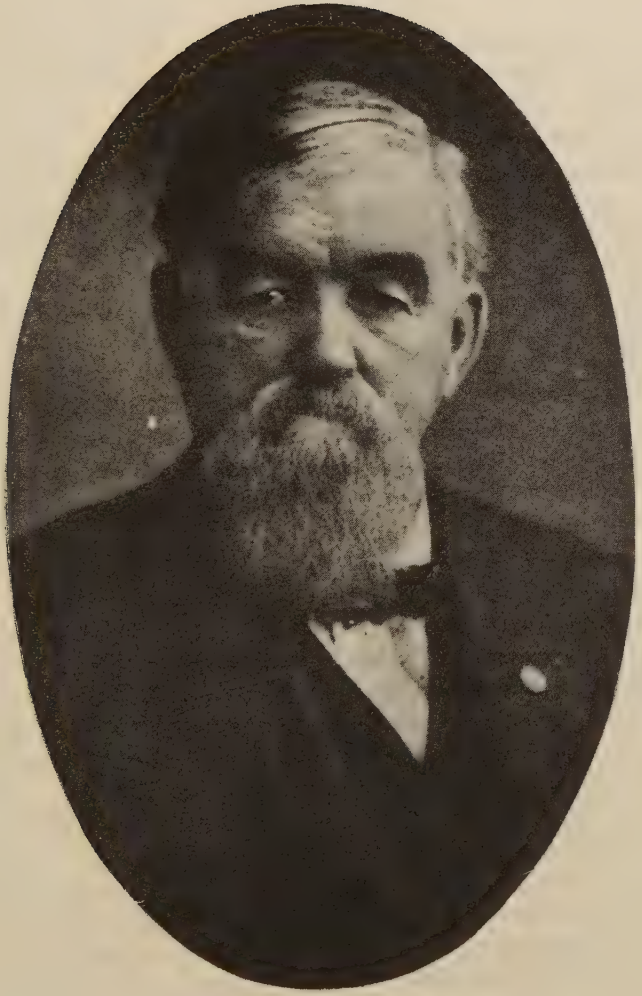
physician for the State Public School for Dependent Children, located at Sparta.

Politically a Democrat, he was candidate for the state legislature in 1865, and though he ran far ahead of his ticket, he was defeated. In 1876 he was chosen by his party as a candidate for congress for the Seventh Congressional district, but as his district was overwhelmingly Republican, he again suffered defeat with the others of his party. Socially, he was a member of the Knights of Pythias, and prominently identified with the Masonic Order, being a member of Valley Lodge, No. 60, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Sparta Chapter, No. 19, Royal Arch Masons, and Sparta Commandery, No. 16, Knights Templar.

Dr. Gage was twice married. His first wife, whom he married at the "Ladies' Seminary," Elmira, N. Y., where she was a teacher, died two years after their marriage. On May 27, 1858, the doctor was united in marriage with Miss Maria Louise Martin, daughter of Nathaniel and Octaria W. Martin, of Beloit, Wis. After forty-five years of happy married life, Dr. Gage was called to his great reward; his death occurred February 25, 1903, and was mourned by his many friends and the citizens generally as a great public loss. His widow, who still survives, is a descendant of an old and prominent New England family. She was born at Westfield, N. Y., and came with her parents to Wisconsin at the age of eight years, receiving her education at the academy at Southport, now Kenosha. She is a lady of rare mental attainments, kindhearted and generous, and contributes liberally of her means to the support of all worthy causes, never forgetting to bestow kindly tokens of respect upon her many and dear friends.

DeWitt C. Beebe, M. D., was born at Rupert, Vt., February 19, 1838, passing his early life in his native state. He received his medical education at Belleone Hospital Medical College, New York City, and at Albany (N. Y.) Medical College, from which institution he graduated. Early in the War of the Rebellion he entered the army as surgeon in the Fourth New York Cavalry, in which he served until the close of the war. Soon after the declaration of peace the doctor came west, locating in Sparta, and later became associated with Dr. M. R. Gage, under the firm name of Gage & Beebe, which continued for a great many years, later Dr. W. T. Sarles was taken into the firm, which was styled, Gage, Beebe & Sarles.

Dr. Beebe was a Mason and member of the Knights of Pythias, and served as state medical examiner of the Ancient



DE WITT C. BEEBE, M. D.

Order of United Workmen during the prosperous days of the order. He was a member of the Wisconsin State Medical Society and the Central Wisconsin Medical Society, and served for many years as a member of the local board of United States Pension Examiners.

Dr. Beebe was a man of strong religious tendencies, and was connected with the Congregational Church for more than a quarter of a century; was prominent in its affairs and devoted much time to the work, especially in connection with the Sunday school, of which he was superintendent for a long period. At this church, every year, for more than twenty years, he conducted the memorial service on the Sunday preceding Decoration Day. Strong in his patriotism, he was prominent in G. A. R. circles, and it was principally through his untiring efforts that the Soldiers' Monument, now standing in North Park, was finally completed and presented to the city of Sparta. His good citizenship was further exemplified by his long service as a member of the board of education, and accomplished much for the Sparta schools by his broad minded policies; served the city as mayor, and at the time of his death had served two years as postmaster; under his administration the free delivery system was inaugurated. Dr. Beebe was a strong man and noted for having the courage of his convictions, a man of ideals who held to them steadfastly, once he was convinced of their righteousness; one of those men who in a way dominate in a community, but always in the interest of progress and good government. He was a stanch Republican, and high in the councils of his party. At all times a deep student, his professional career was marked by great success and in the latter years of his life his advice and counsel was much sought by other physicians. He died at his home in Sparta, July 4, 1908, leaving surviving him his widow and four children.

He was married in the town of his birth to Mary C. Sheldon on the 31st day of May, 1863; five children came to them, Carl M. and Spencer D., both practicing physicians, now located in Sparta; July M., now deceased; Mamie, the wife of P. H. Bertrand, now living at Jefferson City, Kan., and Alice M., who lives with her mother in the Sparta home.

George W. Milligan, M. D., is the oldest physician in Sparta, Wis., having located in that city in 1852, since which time he has been in continuous practice. He was born March 11, 1826, in Cairo, Green county, N. Y., a son of James A. and Eleanor Millegan, the former of whom was a native of Green county. James

A. Millegan grew to manhood and married in the county of his birth, subsequently moving west and located at several points in the Middle West, finally going to Montana, where he died. He was a farmer by occupation.

Dr. Millegan attended a common school of his neighborhood and was quite young when he commenced the study of medicine, meanwhile engaged in various pursuits. In 1849 he graduated from the Pittsfield College and afterward continued his studies until 1852, when, after a short experience in the East, he came to Sparta, where he has made his home to the present day. When Dr. Millegan first came to Sparta it was a village of about two or three hundred inhabitants, and as he was the first physician to settle in the county, it is related that great enthusiasm was manifested when he arrived, and the people turned out and gave him a grand reception. He has from the very first been successful in his professional career, and in his long experience he has gained the confidence of the community in which he has so long lived. During the Civil War, Dr. Millegan was examining surgeon for the district, and has served as county physician for Monroe county, but, owing to his advanced age, he has retired from the active practice of medicine, occasionally giving his valuable advice and consultations, however.

For a great many years he was associated with Dr. H. H. Williams under the firm name of Millegan & Williams; but for a number of years, owing to his advanced years, he has retired from active practice and is living a quiet life in his old home in Sparta. Genial, kindly, strong in his profession, Dr. Millegan is surely one of the history makers in this part of the state, a man who has placed the mark of his personality upon the community in which he has so long and honorably resided.

Fred P. Stiles, M. D., up until very recently, when he removed to Racine, Wis., was one of the most prominent residents of Sparta, Wis., both as a successful physician and a public-spirted citizen; he is from sturdy New England stock, his first American ancestor, Robert Stiles, having landed on the Massachusetts coast in 1639. The doctor traces his decent through an unbroken line and in the records of the seventh generation he finds that a Stiles married a sister of the famous Rebecca Morac, who was hanged as a witch during the witchcraft excitement at Salem.

Luther Stiles, grandfather of Dr. Stiles, was a native of Massachusetts, and removing thus to New Amsterdam, N. Y., engaged in the manufacture of scythes in partnership with his brothers; having decided to move west, he migrated to Michigan, being a

pioneer of Coldwater, in that state, where he erected the first saw mill in the locality. He died in Elgin, Ill. His son, Cornelius C. Stiles, was born in Rome, N. Y., and when a boy, came with his parents to Michigan, later removing to Elgin, Ill., where he engaged in contracting and building for a number of years. He has now retired at Sandwich, Ill. In Elgin he married Miss Cornelia Phelps, a native of Greenwood, N. Y., and a descendant of one of the old Puritan families.

Fred P. Stiles was born at Elgin, Ill., March 22, 1855. He received a good literary training at the Kankakee (Illinois) high school and the Romeo (Michigan) Union School. In 1880 he graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, and immediately thereafter came to Sparta and entered upon the general practice in which he was very successful. The demands upon his services being so pressing, he took into partnership his brother, V. Stiles, of River Side, Cal., who had been engaged in practice for eleven years. The doctor is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy; the Wisconsin State Homeopathic Society, of which he was at one time president; the American Climatological Association, and the United States Board of Pension Examiners. He is also associate editor of the Minneapolis Homeopathic Magazine. Fraternally, he is a Mason and a Knight Templar, and served for ten years as eminent commander of Sparta Commandery, No. 16. The doctor is a stanch Republican in politics, and though no office seeker, took a lively interest in local affairs. He has served and held the office of president of the school board and mayor of the city of Sparta, and in other positions, to the satisfaction of his constituents.

Dr. Stiles was married at Sparta to Miss Nellie Root, daughter of George W. and Jane Root, the former lived with Dr. Stiles for some years prior to his death, which occurred in January, 1889, and he had the distinction of being the only son of a Revolutionary soldier living in that part of the state. Dr. Stiles is a member of the Congregational Church, and has been prominent in its affairs for a great many years. Owing to an attack which rendered an operation necessary, the doctor was in failing health during the summer of 1910, and upon his partial recovery, decided to abandon country riding and an opportunity opening for an office as a city caller in Racine, he moved there in the spring of 1911, where he now resides.

Wilbur T. Sarles, M. D., has for a great many years been prominent in Sparta and vicinity, where he has engaged successfully in the practice of medicine, though he has always found time to

devote to the public affairs of his city, and has always been identified with the movements of progress and improvement.

Dr. Sarles comes from honored American ancestry, his grandfather, Jesse D. Sarles, was born in Westchester county, New York. He removed with his family when a boy to Dutchess county, in the same state, where he grew to manhood and married. He came to Wisconsin when in middle life, and was a pioneer settler of Racine county, and there died.

J. D. Sarles, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Dutchess county, New York, and when a young man migrated west, settling in Wisconsin, where he has since made his home. He is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but owing to advanced age has retired from active work of the ministry, and is living quietly in retirement in the city of Sparta. Rev. J. D. Sarles married Miss Margarete Thompson, of Cayuga county, New York, who died at the age of sixty-two years. Wilbur Sarles was born November 14, 1856, in Armenia, Juneau county, Wis. He completed a high school course at Prescot, Wis., and received more advanced training in an academy at River Falls, Wis., at Galesville University, and then attended Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which he graduated in February, 1882. The month following he commenced practice at Sparta, where he has continued to make his home, having met with success which his abilities and talents deserve. He is a surgeon for the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company at this place; is a member of the Wisconsin State Medical Society, of which he is ex-president; of the Central Wisconsin Medical Society, of which he is also an ex-president; of the La Crosse Valley Medical Society; the National Association of Railway Surgeons, and of the American Medical Association, of which he is now a trustee.

Fraternally he is united with the Masonic Order, is a member of Sparta Commandery, No. 16, K. T. In politics he is a stanch Republican, and has for years been an active worker in the ranks of the party, being one of the influential leaders of this section of the state; he was a delegate from the Seventh Congressional District to the Chicago convention which nominated Roosevelt in 1904, and was elected as a Taft elector from the Seventh District in 1908. He served three consecutive terms as mayor of Sparta, during which time he inaugurated the water works, the electric lighting and the street paving; his re-election testifying of his capability in this responsible position. For twenty-five years he has been a member of the United States Board of

Pension Examiners, of which he has served as secretary during all that time.

On March 23, 1882, he was married to Miss Nina Schaller and they have two daughters by adoption, Grace and Francis. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the doctor is a member of the board of trustees.

Dr. Sarles is a companionable man, gifted with an analytical and inquiring mind and has won an enviable reputation in his profession, being a surgeon of rare skill, his services are sought far beyond the large local practice which he enjoys in connection with his firm, and he is withal a mighty good citizen.

Charles E. Quigg, M. D., who has been engaged in practice at Tomah, Wis., since 1883, has attained more than local fame in his profession, and he is also well known in political circles in that section. Dr. Quigg was born September 30, 1852, in Ticonderoga, N. Y., and received every advantage for thorough training, both in literature and in his profession, having attended various standard institutions during his boyhood and youth. He completed his medical studies at Bennett Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1880, and he began practice immediately at Fox Lake and Grand Rapids, Wis., in 1883 coming to Tomah, where he has since remained. He has, by skill and efficiency, built up a wide and lucrative practice, and many admirable personal qualities have won him the esteem and praise of the entire community. His fellow citizens have shown their appreciation of his genuine worth by calling him to various offices of responsibility and importance, and he has served seven years as health officer of Tomah, four terms as mayor of that city, and one term (1893-94) as member of the state assembly from his district, although it is a Republican stronghold and he a stanch Democrat.

In 1897 he was appointed a member of the Wisconsin Board of Medical Examiners, and in 1899 received a reappointment to the same for a term of four years. Dr. Quigg's brother physicians, also, have honored him in various ways. In 1883 he was elected president of the Wisconsin State Eclectic Medical Society; he is an honorary member of the Illinois State Medical Society; and in 1893 he was a delegate to the World's Congress of Medico-Climatology. He is also a member of the National Eclectic Medical Association. Dr. Quigg was licensed to practice in four states—Wisconsin, Illinois, Colorado and California.

Fraternally he is a Mason, and a member of various other orders, was a member of Sparta Commandery, No. 16, Knights

Templar. A valued member of his profession and of the community in which he lived, he passed away at his home in Tomah on the —— day of ——.

Dr. George R. Vincent was one of Tomah's pioneer physicians and had a long and honorable career in the practice of medicine in that city; he was born in New York state, received a common school and medical college education and moved to the state of Wisconsin in 1866, settling at the then thriving village of Tomah and entered upon the practice of his profession. He was one of the best physicians in this part of the state, having built up a large practice in the earlier days which extended throughout this and the neighboring counties; he had a large circle of friends who at different times induced him to accept political honors and he took a prominent part in the affairs of his home city; served one term in the Wisconsin legislature as a member of the assembly from this district in 1878; he was a member of the State Medical Society and also of the American Medical Association.

In the year 1866, just before coming to Tomah, Dr. Vincent was married at Stratford, N. Y., to Miss Elizabeth Kibbe; she died in this city in 1889, and two years later he was married to Miss Mary Tyler, Binghampton, N. Y. Dr. Vincent was very successful in his practice and retired from active work about ten years before his death, which occurred in the city of Tomah on the 18th day of September, 1910. The doctor was truly one of the pioneers in this county in the practice of medicine, and endured the hardships which were incident to that work in the earlier days, when physicians did not have the advantages of rapid transportation with automobiles, and were obliged to make long drives in all kinds of weather, often taking two days to make a trip to see a patient and return. He is remembered by the present citizens of Tomah, who had the pleasure of his friendship and acquaintance, as a man who placed loyalty to his home city above everything else, and did not hesitate to devote his time and some money to building up the interests of the community.

Dr. Horace Palmer was born in Montpelier, Vt., on October 28, 1823; graduated at the Vermont Medical College at Woodstock, January 18, 1851, and commenced the practice of medicine in the same year at Mansfield, Mass.

He married Susan C. Hall, at Mansfield, March 22, 1857, and removed to Wisconsin the following May, settling in West Salem, where he continued practicing his profession, and July 13, 1875,

moved to Sparta and purchased the pioneer drug store of the place, at that time owned by Ira A. Hill, placing George E. Marriner, now of La Crosse, in charge of same while he continued the practice of his profession. Dr. Palmer's fatal illness began with a cold which developed into pneumonia, and the fatal end came on December 25, 1880. Dr. Palmer occupied a prominent place in social and business circles, and was universally esteemed. He left a wife, two daughters and one son, Lissie H. (deceased), wife of Henry S. Howell, and Fannie A., wife of M. Fillmore Howell, and Fred E.

Crawford E. Phillips, M. D., one of the leading representatives of the medical profession of Monroe county, was born near Meadville, Crawford county, Pa., October 31, 1853, a son of David J. Phillips, a native of Ohio, but of New England ancestry. He was reared in his native state, and married Huldah Winans, also born in Ohio, and, like her husband, descended from a New England family. Dr. Phillips was a farmer by occupation, and a few years after his marriage he moved to Crawford county, Pennsylvania, where he lived until his death, which occurred in February, 1872, at the age of about fifty years.

C. E. Phillips, M. D., received his education at the common schools, and also took a scientific course of study at the Meadville Commercial College. Early in life he decided to engage in the medical profession as his life work, and at the age of seventeen years he began the study at Meadville, and graduated at the Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati in the spring of 1874. Believing that superior opportunities for rising in his profession might be found in the West, Dr. Phillips decided to locate in Nebraska, and accordingly removed to Arapahoe. But the devastations of the grasshoppers in that state rendered his selection of a location an undesirable one, and after spending a year there recruiting his health as well as practicing his profession, he decided to seek another place of residence. Wilton at that time promised favorably, and consequently in the fall of 1875 he located in this city, where he enjoyed an extensive and lucrative practice. In order to inform himself in the later discoveries of the science of medicine, the doctor took a course at the Bennett Medical College in 1886, and received the degree of M. D. at that institution.

Dr Phillips was married October 17, 1877, to Eva Winans, a daughter of Dr. J. C. Winans, a prominent physician at Madison, Ohio. Mrs. Phillips is a lady of culture and a fine artist. To this union has been born one son, Vernil, born October 4, 1887.

The doctor was both an excellent physician and a popular and progressive citizen. He was a prominent Mason, being a member of the Blue Lodge, chapter and Commandery of Sparta. He removed to California in 1909 and died there September 17, 1910, his remains being taken to Madison, Ohio, for burial.

John F. Richards, M. D. Among the earlier physicians on the eastern side of the county was John F. Richards, who came to Tomah in 1862, and resided there continuously until the time of his death.

Dr. Richards was born in Clermont county, Ohio, in 1818; his father, John R. Richards, and his mother were both natives of Maryland. While a boy, Mr. Richards lived in the same village as the Grant family, and was well acquainted with the father and with U. S. Grant, afterwards the celebrated general, who went to West Point from Clermont county, Ohio. Dr. Richards studied medicine in his native county and attended the Ohio Medical College, from which he graduated in 1848, and began the practice of his profession in Highland county later, where he remained until 1862, when he removed to the city of Milwaukee and there engaged in the drug business and practiced his profession.

In the spring of 1866 he removed with his family to Tomah, where he remained continuously until September 3, 1903, the date of his death. He served one term in the legislature, being that of 1872, and was a Democrat in politics. He was a quiet unassuming man, a deep student in his profession, and during the later years of his life, after he had retired from active practice, he was frequently called into consultation with other physicians, who availed themselves of his vast experience in the general practice of medicine. The last fifteen years of his life he retired from active work and lived in his old homestead in the city of Tomah, visiting among his three children; his daughter, Mrs. D. C. Cheney, who lived at Milwaukee, Wis., at that time; Randolph A., the editor of this work, at Sparta, Wis., and John F., living at Kansas City, Mo.

He died at the home of his daughter in Milwaukee on the date stated above, and his remains were brought to Tomah and interred beside those of his wife, whose death had taken place several years before.

Carl M. Beebe, M. D. Among the young men in this profession who have made rapid strides to the front is Carl M. Beebe, of Sparta, one of the firm of Sarles, Beebe & Beebe.

He was born at Sparta, Wis., February 19, 1866, the son of

De Witt C. Beebe. He received a high school education, graduating from the Sparta high school with the class of 1884, after which he attended the state university for two years and then took a course at Rush Medical College, in Chicago, from which institution he graduated in 1889, and pursuing his medical study farther he went to New York and took a course in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and graduated from that institution in 1891. He was for some time the assistant physician at the Wisconsin Hospital for the Insane, at Oshkosh, and from there he removed to Zumbrota, in the state of Minnesota, where he continued the practice of his profession until 1896, when he returned to Sparta and went into partnership with his father and Dr. Sarles. This firm continued until the time of the death of Dr. D. C. Beebe, and upon its reorganization, S. D. Beebe, the younger brother, was taken into the partnership under the firm name of Sarles, Beebe & Beebe.

Dr. Beebe has taken an active interest in municipal affairs in the city; has served as alderman on the city council; is now a member of the board of education and is a supervisor representing the First Ward of the city upon the county board; he has been closely connected with several movements for the betterment of conditions in the city generally and is one of the progressive citizens of the community. He married Miss Minnie Blakesley September 1, 1891.

William B. Ford, M. D., was born at Sparta, Wis., August 27, 1874, received his early education in the schools of the city, graduating from the high school with the class of 1893; he entered the University of Wisconsin soon after, graduating from that institution in 1898. After spending one year in Philadelphia, Pa., he entered Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which institution he graduated in 1903.

The doctor is a Mason and a Knight Templar, being a member of Sparta Masonic lodges and Commandery; is a member of the Kappa Sigma college fraternity; served as secretary of the Monroe County Medical Society for three years. He has, since his graduation, practiced continually in Monroe county, a portion of the time in Sparta; is now located at Norwalk, where he enjoys a lucrative practice in the village and the farming country in the vicinity.

Lewis S. Graves, M. D., was born at Jordan, New York state, December 24, 1873. His early education was received at Jordan high school and the Jordan free academy. He entered Bennett Medical College, at Chicago, from which he graduated with the

class of 1901; he has practiced his profession at Conneaut, Ohio, and Chicago, Ill.; and is at present located at Wilton, Wis., enjoying a lucrative practice. He is a member of the Monroe County Medical Society; the Wisconsin State Medical Society, the Wisconsin Eclectic Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

George Oliver Murray, M. D., was born in Hawick, Scotland, October 4, 1857, where he received an academic education. He emigrated to Canada in 1882 and engaged in mercantile business until 1893, when he went to Keokuk, Iowa, entering the College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he graduated in 1896. In that year he located at Windsor, Dane county, Wis., where he practiced for three years; then removed to Tunnel City, Monroe county, where he remained for seven years. In 1906 he moved to Tomah, where he has since resided. In 1908 he was appointed health officer of the city, which position he still holds.

He married Sarah Johnson, of Highgate, Canada, in 1894, two children being born to them, Robert Oliver, in 1895, and Agnes Oriska in 1897.

Spencer D. Beebe, M. D., was born at Sparta, Wis., in 1869, is the youngest son of Dr. D. C. Beebe, now deceased. His early education was received in the schools of Sparta, graduating from the high school with the class of 1889; afterwards attended the university, from which institution he graduated and entered Rush Medical College, graduating in 1896. He commenced the practice of his profession at Aurora, Ill., moving from there to Elroy, Wis., where he remained for a few years, afterwards coming to Sparta and entering the firm of Sarles, Beebe & Beebe. Dr. Beebe is a fine musician, having a tenor voice, highly trained, and for some years has directed the large chorus choir of the Congregational Church.

A. R. Bell, M. D., was born at Tomah, July 26, 1872; he received his early education in country schools, entering the Tomah high school, from which he graduated with the class of 1894. Choosing the medical profession for his life work he entered the Wisconsin College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he graduated April 5, 1900, came back to Tomah and entered upon the practice of his profession April 7, 1900. He was at one time connected with Dr. Simonson of the Tomah Hospital, but is at present practicing alone. He is now serving as secretary of the Monroe County Medical Society.

Hugh H. Williams, M. D., a practicing physician of Sparta, has pursued his profession in that city since 1896, when he was

graduated from the Rush Medical College, of Chicago, Ill., and in the intervening years, has by his skill and prepossessing manner, built up a flourishing practice. He was born in Wales on August 20, 1869, the son of William and Elizabeth (Williams) Williams, who both spent their lives in their native country and where both died in 1873.

Hugh H. attended the common schools of Wales, and after the death of his parents, accompanied by his uncle, Peter Williams, he came to the United States in 1879 and located at Pipersville, Wis. His Uncle Peter was afterward killed by a horse in Coles Valley, Monroe county. Coming to Sparta, Mr. Williams entered the Sparta high school, graduating therefrom with the class of 1891; he then began the study of medicine in the office of G. W. Milligan, of Sparta, and later entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago, graduating with the class of 1896. He immediately began the practice of medicine in the city of his adoption. Upon the breaking out of the Spanish-American War he enlisted in the Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guards, and as assistant surgeon, participated with his regiment through the Porto Rican campaign, and after his discharge from the regiment, continued for one year to act as assistant surgeon with the United States regulars in Porto Rico.

Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Order and a Knight Templar. On March 4, 1901, he was married to Miss Tillie Olson, daughter of Ole Olson, of Sparta. Mrs. William died on September 6, 1906, leaving besides her husband, one son, Hugh H. Williams, Jr.

E. J. Riordon, M. D., of Wilton, Monroe county, was born in Massachusetts, June 1, 1856, and is the son of Janos and Mary (Richards) Riordon, natives of Ireland and Massachusetts, respectively. In 1867 the father came west with his family and located at Milwaukee, Wis. He was a shoemaker by trade and obtained employment with Bradley and Metcalf, manufacturers of shoes, with whom he remained some years. He died in 1903, honored and respected by his fellowmen. He was the father of five children, only two of whom are living. In religious affiliations he was a member of the Catholic church, and in politics a Democrat.

Dr. Riordon received his education in the common school which he attended until his fifteenth year. In early life he gained some renown as a violinist and dancer, and for three years was one of the attractions of Dan Rice's show. In 1876 he enlisted in Company B, Fourth United States Cavalry. He was sent

to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, and later to Fort Elliott. He was discharged in 1879 and returned to his home in Milwaukee, where for eight years he was employed by Bradley and Metcalf in the manufacture of shoes. At the end of that time he commenced the study of medicine, which he pursued for three years in Milwaukee, then entered the Keokuk Medical College (now the Drake University, of Iowa), and graduated with the degree of M. D., and in 1900 came to Monroe county and commenced the practice of his profession. He is a member of the Monroe County Medical Society, a member of the Wisconsin State Medical Association. He is president of the village of Wilton, member of the village board of health, and in politics a Democrat.

L. G. Scheurich, M. D., of Tomah, is a native of Germany, and ranks among the younger class of wide-awake and progressive professional men of Monroe county. He was born in December, 1882, and is a son of August and Barbara Kathryn (Maurer) Scheurich. In 1886 he came to America with his parents, who located in Baltimore, Md., his father here finding employment in a tobacco factory. He had a family of seven boys, all of whom are now (1912) living, the doctor being the oldest of the family.

Dr. L. G. had good educational advantages during his boyhood, attending the public schools of Baltimore, and after completing his common school work he entered the Loyola college at Baltimore in 1896, where he received a thorough course of training and graduated with the class of 1903 with the degree of A. B. In 1904 he entered the University of Maryland, and after a four-year course graduated from the medical department with the class of 1908 with the degree of M. D., and immediately thereafter went into the Bay View hospital at Baltimore as assistant physician. After spending one year in this capacity he became chief resident physician, which position he held until June 15, 1910. October 11, 1910, he moved to Tomah and commenced an active practice here, his experience and efficiency acquired from his hospital service placing him at the head of a large and lucrative business, and during his last year in the hospital at Baltimore he made a specialty of the use and administration of tuberculin in the treatment of tuberculosis, which has been effective in much of his practice. In this specialty he was associated with Dr. Gordon Wilson, one of the leading tuberculosis specialists in the world.

Dr. Scheurich is a man of fine personality, courteous, affable and pleasing in manner, with the ability both to make and hold friends, of whom he has a wide circle. In love with his profes-

sion, he devotes himself to it with fidelity and gives promise of a successful and useful career.

Vernon W. Stiles, M. D., who has attained to a position of prominence in the line of his chosen profession, is the youngest of a family of five sons and two daughters born to Cornelius C. and Cornelia (Phelps) Stiles, both of whom were natives of central New York. Besides our subject, the others are: Emma G., widow of J. C. Taylor, Oceanside, Cal.; Luther H. Stiles, of Minneapolis; William H., of San Bernardino, Cal.; Dr. Fred P. Stiles, a practicing physician of Racine, Wis.; Susie C., widow of E. W. Hills, Redlands, Cal., and Henry A., who is a druggist at Sturgeon Bay, Wis. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Luther Stiles and Clarissa Pierce, natives of Massachusetts; the grandfather on the maternal side was also a native of Massachusetts. Cornelius Stiles, father of Dr. Stiles, went from New York, his native state, to Coldwater, Mich., when fourteen years of age. Remaining there for six years he then removed to Elgin, Ill., where he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner and also engaged in farming. It was while living at Elgin that he met and married Cornelia Phelps, and where the family was born. In about the year 1864 he moved his family to Kankakee, and ten years later to Sandwich, Ill., where he died in 1907 at the age of eighty-three years, having been born in 1824. His wife, mother of our subject, was born in 1827 and died in 1905, aged seventy-eight years. They were successful, liberal, broad-minded, public-spirited and influential citizens and enjoyed the confidence of all who knew them.

Dr. Vernon W. Stiles was born at Elgin, Ill., January 31, 1861, receiving his education in the public schools of Kankakee and the Sandwich high school. Completing his studies he went to Chicago when seventeen years of age and secured a position as clerk in a drug store. At the end of three years he entered the drug store of his brother in the same capacity, and later opened a drug store on his own account at Manteno, Ill., which he sold one year later and came to Sparta, where he was employed for two years in the drug store of Fred Newton. He was offered and accepted a position with Hemphill & Woy and established a drug store at the Cheyenne Indian agency in the Indian Territory, and two years later began the study of medicine. He matriculated with the Hannemann Medical College, in Chicago, where he was graduated with the class of 1888, receiving his degree of M. D. He spent one year as house physician in the Hannemann hospital in Chicago, and located in 1889 at Riverside, Cal., where

he continued a successful practice for ten years. In 1899 he came to Sparta and entered into a co-partnership with his brother, Dr. Fred P. Stiles, in the practice of medicine, and has since continued his professional work with gratifying results.

Dr. Stiles is a man of intense energy and activity and devotes much time to affairs outside of his professional duties. He is a member of the California State Medical Society, the Southern California Medical Society, the Wisconsin Homeopathic Medical Society, and the American Medical Association, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias order.

In 1905 Dr. Stiles was united in marriage with Miss Helen Frances Dodge, daughter of the late Rufus S. Dodge, of Sparta. They have one daughter, Frances Stiles.

CHAPTER LI.

TOWNSHIP HISTORY.

It is with the deepest regret that the editor finds it necessary to record the meagre historical data concerning some of the town organizations. The passing away of so many of the pioneers in various parts of the county has deprived us of the means of gathering historical facts concerning the early days in several communities, facts which would, no doubt, be of great interest and value; interesting indeed because of the conditions which existed, the privations endured, the difficulties overcome by the first settlers furnishing the individual experiences which go to make history.

Through all the events of the past we make our way to the present, but how the pioneer lived, the kind of house he managed to erect, the political events surrounding the newly formed municipalities, the story of how the pioneer saw the wilderness gradually transformed into fine farms, prosperous villages, busy cities, all paying tribute to their creative energy and untiring perseverance, is one which always brings its lessons to the present, lessons taught by the hardest and sternest of all teachers, experience. But the lessons are rich in results.

At the organization of the county, as appears in another chapter, there was but one town, which included the whole county, the town of Leon. As the years went by and circumstances warranted it, the county board created new townships, setting them off from those already established. It is difficult to follow the records concerning territory embraced in the limits of each town, for of necessity newly created towns were composed of parts of others so that no attempt will be made to do so in this chapter. There are now twenty-four townships, four villages and a part of a village, Ontario, and two cities.

ADRIAN.

In 1854, at the first meeting of the board at which anything was done with reference to dividing the county into townships. the county board created five towns, including the town of Adrian, it being set off at the same time as Angelo, Sparta and

Leon. The two persons mainly instrumental in the settlement of this town were W. W. Jackson and Webster Kenyon, who settled there in 1854, together with a number of others, and commenced at once laying plans for a village in the township to be called Jacksonville. As has been told elsewhere the coming of the Milwaukee and LaCrosse railway raised great hopes in the breasts of these pioneers, that it would come through their town and proposed village, but fate had decreed it otherwise. The town was settled quite rapidly, however, and farming lands opened up for settlement. The life of W. W. Jackson has been told elsewhere, and here we record a short sketch of Webster Kenyon. He was born in New York state, November 18, 1830, coming west in 1854. In 1863 he enlisted in the army, remaining until the close of the war. Mr. Kenyon was by profession a civil engineer and held the office of county surveyor of Monroe county for eighteen years. Having retired from active work on his farm and in surveying he moved to the city of Tomah and there passed the remainder of his days. He died Wednesday, December 6, 1911. The township of Adrian contains fine farming land and many valuable farms have been developed. The history of this progress is that of about every other township, one of struggle and privation for a time with the rewards of earnest labor reaped by succeeding generations. The present town officers are: Geo. P. Stevens, chairman; William Bakkhouse and M. Kroener, supervisors; George Falkner, clerk; John Edminster, treasurer; W. C. Kirst, assessor; E. C. Cole, justice of the peace. The population at the census of 1910 was 806.

TOWN OF ANGELO.

The story of the race between a man by the name of Searl and Dr. Seth Angle to the land office in Mineral Point to locate the present site of the village of "Athens," in the town of Angelo, has already been told. Angle came out ahead by one hour and located the land upon which the water power was situated and proceeded to erect a sawmill, which at that time was the only one in this part of the country except the one erected by Esau Johnson in the southern part of the county, on the Kickapoo, and the lumber business was lively in those days at the doctor's mill, so much so that at times settlers were obliged to get in line and wait for hours for their turn to get a load of lumber. Loyd Angle, a brother of Dr. S. P. Angle, also came about the same time, and in 1852, with his son, O. F. Angle, settled on a farm located near the mill. O. F. Angle some years later came to

Sparta and went into the livery business and was elected sheriff of the county, serving one term. Dr. Angle, however, did not stay a great while in the sawmill business, but sold out to Edward Canfield, brother of Lee Canfield, Sr. Edward Canfield had one of those dreams which came to many enterprising settlers in the days of the early settlement, a dream which pictured a city on the site occupied by his mill and the two or three stores and dwellings of the then inhabitants of the village, and so he had a plat made of the land, streets and alleys regularly set out and dedicated, had the plat duly made by the county surveyor. Seeking to give it a name equal in fame with "Sparta," he called it "Athens," so those two famous cities of Greece find their namesakes in America, but history was not kind. Sparta became a city, but Athens still remained a country village, and its shadow gradually grew less from a business point of view, as in 1856 there were more stores there than there are now. It is a mistake made frequently and very commonly in alluding to Athens as "Angelo," but that is not correct, as the settlement retains upon the records to this day its original name and all conveyances of property in the so-called village are made under its name of Athens. Originally the village was laid out in generous proportions. It had its public square, now occupied by a church; and its "State street," and to its credit be it said that at the time the county was organized this little group of settlers put up a very good fight to have the county seat located there. The plat of Athens was recorded in the offices of the register of deeds, May 13, 1856, made by C. C. Miller, the then county surveyor. Early settlers were numerous. Among them may be mentioned L. M. Huntley, who arrived in 1854, as did George Shepherd and John W. Smith. In 1859 Rev. Robert Williams, a Welsh minister, settled in the town and established a Welsh church. His son, W. G. Williams, now prominent in banking circles, farmed it with his father as well as attended to his ministerial duties. The old Angelo water power is now the property of the O. I. Newton's Sons Company and is used for furnishing power for the electric light and power plant, in connection with the power in the city of Sparta. Within the town are many valuable small fruit farms, many in a high state of cultivation, and this industry is a large source of revenue to its inhabitants. The present officers of the town are: J. W. Leverich, chairman; George Kronberg and Jenk Williams, supervisors; Wilber S. Fish, clerk; Fred Hutson, treasurer; Fred Heilman, assessor; E. T. Hanchett, justice. Population census of 1910, 666.

BYRON.

At a meeting of the county board of Monroe county on January 6, 1863, a petition having been presented by the inhabitants of the proposed town, a resolution was passed detaching township sixteen, range three west, from the town of Leon and creating it the town of Byron, and provided that the first election should be held at the house of Frederick Swartslow on the first Tuesday in April, 1863, which was accordingly done and the town organization perfected. Originally the town comprised the entire territory of what is now the town of Scott and Byron. A large portion of the then town, in the northeast part especially, is low land and at the time there were large cranberry marshes in their wild state, except that as the industry developed arrangements were made by ditching so that the marshes could be flooded whenever there appeared to be danger of frost, and it was during the height of this business that a station and post-office was established at Dodge's mill and called Norway Ridge, the name it still bears. Cranberry culture is still a large factor in the commercial life of the town. Several very productive marshes have been brought to a high state of development and are situated near Valley Junction, but perhaps the most valuable are to the east and north in Juneau and Jackson counties. The town was not settled as thickly as some other portions of the county until after the war, and is now rather thinly settled in some portions. There has been for some years quite a sale for the peat lands around Valley Junction. Drainage ditches have been constructed, which developed some of this land so that dry farming is carried on successfully. Of those who went into the rebellion from this town their record, if they were enlisted in the county, appears elsewhere; outside of that there is no record. The present town officers are: C. T. Melteson, chairman; supervisors, Odis McLin, A. Anderson; clerk, F. Muerman; treasurer, A. M. Christensen; assessor, F. A. Bennett.

Population census of 1910, 806.

CLIFTON.

Clifton was one of the early towns being organized by a resolution of the county board on August 14, 1855, and the annual meeting ordered to be held in the home of A. Heath on the first Tuesday in April, 1866. The meeting, however, was held at the home of L. A. Farr. The first town officers elected at that time were John Foster, chairman; Andrew Lansing and A. H.

Isham, supervisors; G. B. Holden, town clerk; L. A. Farr, treasurer; Edward Masters, school superintendent; Leonard Phillips, assessor; justices, J. L. Sargent, Charles Dickinson and Edgar H. Eddy; constables, Roswell Smith, A. M. Baldwin and Henry F. Dresden; sealer of weights and measures, Smith Austin; so the town started out with a full equipment of officers. There were twenty-four votes cast at that election, six of whom are still living. The oldest settler in the town was Lyman Prescott, who came in 1853 or 1854. Industries began early, for we find that in 1856 L. A. Farr erected a sawmill, and in 1858 A. A. Noyes built a grist mill. The first farm house in the town is said to be the one erected by Lody Angle before its organization. It will be noted that this town was very large and took in territory afterwards cut out for other towns, so that many familiar names of other towns appear. School was commenced in a building built in 1856 for that purpose. There are at present three school buildings in the town, all first-class district buildings. The present town officers are: Vincent Arzt, chairman; Wm. Vonhaden and Cr. Johnson, supervisors; Oscar Blaschke, clerk; Frank Blaser, treasurer; Edwin Eirschele, assessor; Charles F. Frohmader, justice of the peace.

Population at census of 1910, 934.

GLENDALE.

This town was organized November 13, 1855, and the first town meeting was held on the first Tuesday in April, 1856, at the home of Samuel C. Lyon. The officers elected at that time were Samuel C. Lyon, chairman; Gaines Phillips and C. D. Bradley, supervisors; Charles Tollard, clerk; Hiram Driggs, treasurer; H. J. Moore and L. Johnson, justices; J. R. Lyon, J. G. Moore and S. Worden, constables; R. H. Benedict and S. D. Moore, assessors. The first store building was built by J. R. Lyons in 1871, and a mercantile business conducted by him there for a great many years. Mr. Lyons, at the preparation of this work, is still living, making his home at Kendall. He has held many official positions, being at one time member of the assembly, and served two terms as register of deeds of the county. A postoffice was first established at the home of S. C. Lyon in 1872 with him as postmaster. Glendale has a noble record of enlistments in the army during the rebellion, and here is the roll of honor: William Harland, John Harland, Henry Davis, Richard Windson, John Brigham, Daniel Newton, Thomas Newton, T. B. Broughton, Z. R. Broughton, P. W. Broughton, Samuel Worden, Leonard Johnson, John

Birdsill, George Birdsill, Chang Green, Chester Green, Mauson Green, Richard Douglas, Job Driggs, Phillip Spohn, Charles Miller, William Miller, Hial West, Casper Keller, James R. Lyon, Samuel Lyon, Samuel Richardson, John Richardson, Perry Richardson, Nelson Paine, Norrie Greely, Henry Greely, John Williams, David Moore, Horace Moore, James McQueen, George Robbins, James Dunlap, Robert Dunlap, Frank French, Hiram French, Leander Brainerd, Organ Benedict, James Searles, Charles Tollard, O. K. Thompson, Joseph Ward, James Kellar, John Leason, and Barrow Stone. The present town officers are: A. I. Street, chairman; H. D. Chard and J. R. Rossol, supervisors; George H. Robertson, clerk; E. J. Gregor, treasurer; J. W. Bradley, assessor; F. C. Stokes, justice. Population, 971.

GRANT.

This town was so long a part of the town of Lincoln, having been set off in 1899, that its early history is that of Lincoln and is embodied in the sketch of that town. The present officers of the town are: S. F. Shookman, chairman; William Vroman, Herman Kemp, supervisors; W. C. Green, clerk; Fred Purdy, treasurer; Eli Sutherland, assessor; Ham Griffin, Abe Griffin and William Brennan, justices. Population, 442.

GREENFIELD.

Organized August 14, 1855, the same time that the towns of Clifton and Sheldon were organized, and in point of years it is one of the oldest settlements. With the building of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul line, or the Milwaukee & LaCrosse Railway, as it was then known in 1858, came the establishment of the little settlement of Tunnel City, at the tunnel on that line. This place has grown steadily as a trading point, at one time being a central market in the blueberry trade. It has now several stores and other business interests. The building of the Milwaukee, Sparta & Northwestern Railway in 1910 and 1911 made a great change in the village as the route went right through the business section of the place, resulting in the company buying a lot of buildings, and in some cases just the lots, so that the little place has shifted around considerably. A large double-track tunnel has been put through the bluff a little north of the tunnel of the St. Paul company. The present town officers are: George Becker, chairman; Fred Heser and M. J. Betthauser, supervisors; clerk, W. H. Hinds; treasurer, William Seno-

gles; Frank Pier, assessor; D. J. Woodward and A. I. Reich, justices. Population, 800.

JEFFERSON.

The town of Jefferson, lying in the southwestern part of Monroe county, known as township fifteen, north of range three west, was originally a part of Portland township, which comprised townships fifteen, range three west, and fifteen, four west, until the year 1858, when the townships separated and township fifteen, range four west, was organized, and by a vote of its people it was named "Jefferson." Township fifteen, range three west, retained its name of Portland, which it still bears. The years 1854 and 1855 found in the town of Jefferson the following families located on their several homesteads: Alex. Thompson, James Thompson, Abram Aller, Joseph McFarland, John and Hames Draper, John Breatiff, James Stansby, H. Shattuck, John Hall, Simpson, Thomas and Henry Matby, Richard F. Cole, Thomas, William and Elviridge Rathbun, Oren Hutchinson, L. Weightman, Sam Osburn, Dixon, Chester Perkin, Gibert and Washington Love, Gilbert Tuttle, John Sullivan, Jefferson Lower, James Erkenbraetz, Pat Chambers, Joseph Koesfler, Albert Fisher, Christ Fuhrmeister, A. Heiser, Stephen Doering, Charles Rumppe, Peter Herring, John Krahenbush, George Klues. In the year 1856 and early in 1857 the following emigrants, mostly from the beautiful Rhine river country near Cologne, established their homes in this town: Hilger Karis, Matt Esser, Herman Brois, Peter Schrier, John and Quirin Schrier, Hilger and Ludwig Schotten, Caspar Schmitz, Peter Gross, John J. and Fred Gross, Peter and Caspar Schiefer, Mathias and Gerhard Butzler, Peter Michels, and in November of the same year Cornelius and Henry H. Cremer, Henry Berg, Martin Jungferdorf, William B. Brueggen, Herbert Koehlbraf, William McFarland, John Aller, George Whittley, Thomas Young, and a few more. At this time and since the organization of the town in 1858 we find a little log school house in Coles valley, and near Melvina is a school district called "District No. 1;" a little frame school house near Thompson's is District No. 2, and a little log school house, now known as St. Mary's, is District No. 3. Richard Cole was the first chairman of the town, and James Thompson and Michael Wiebel were the side supervisors, with A. Heiser as town clerk and Albert Fisher, town treasurer; A. Thompson, assessor, and James Drapper, town superintendent of schools.

In the spring of 1858 the first church was built in the town,

being the Catholic church of St. Mary's, which was constructed of logs twenty by forty-eight feet in size, near section one. The postoffice in St. Mary's was established in 1859. Caspar Schmitz was its first postmaster, and during this time new settlers came into this town: Jacob Joesten, Mathew Muehlenberg, C. Wiebell, C. Dickson, S. Betz, Peter Basenach, F. Reinhold, C. Bierhaum, Matt Heintz, Peter Flock, H. Rondorf, John and Jacob Seiberg, Mannlius Squires, A. Harrington, William Collins, John Mitchell, Herman Schrier and a few more. It was indeed a hard struggle for the first settlers in the town, as the land was very hard to clear and the crops of 1858 and 1859 were poor and there was no way of earning anything in this new country, so that the hardships endured by the pioneers in this section were quite severe, but the year 1860 brought abundant crops of every kind and the people began from that time to prosper. The first presidential election was held in the town of Jefferson in November, 1860, and the town went Democratic, and to this day has ever since cast its majority vote in the Democratic column. During the Civil War, 1861-1865, the town furnished more than its quota to serve their country in this struggle, and it progressed in various ways, forming a new school house district, No. 4, and two joint school houses in the towns of Portland, and Jefferson, and Wells, and the political affairs for a good many years were run by A. Heiser, Peter Schrier, P. Basenach, A. Fisher, Cole James Thompson, H. H. Cremer, Q. Schnieier, and a few others, and at this time Fred Feihrmiester was town superintendent of schools up to 1862, and after that time the county superintendent system was formed and Dr. M. R. Gage became county superintendent.

The increasing population in the town and in adjoining towns made it necessary for the people around St. Mary's in the year 1868 to build a new church, which was constructed of lumber forty by eighty-four feet in size, and then a resident priest stationed there, it having, previous to this time up to 1865, been attended from LaCrosse; Jacob Joisten being now postmaster at St. Mary's until 1884. Capt. C. A. Hunt in 1866-67 bought some three hundred acres of land and erected the first mill on the section, gathering some families around him. This place he named "Melvina," which was on the mail route that then existed between Sparta and Viroqua, and the captain was its postmaster until the time of his death. Melvina is a thrifty village and the railroad station, with good markets, and merchants handling goods of every description, has a creamery, a church and graded schools.

In the winter of 1866-67 seventeen families organized and decided to build a Catholic church in Pine Hollow, being the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-nine, to which H. H. Cremer donated three acres of land, and a frame church was built thirty-four by sixty-eight by twenty-two feet in size, which was destroyed by a tornado on the 25th of June, 1875. This storm swept over this part of the country, doing great damage. Soon after that the organization of seventeen families was increased by the following, which came from Jefferson county, Wisconsin: Peter Klinkler, Michael Berens, M. Hensen, Joseph Futhren, Matt Biver, A. Justinger, P. Klesar, F. Bussinger, M. Sneider, J. Graff, Joseph Bluer, all of whom came in 1868, and the membership of this church having increased to about sixty, it was decided to build a new structure of stone, which was completed in 1878 and remained in St. Mary's until 1886, when it received its own pastor. At the present writing it has a congregation of about one hundred and sixty families, with a parochial school and a fine government in every way.

Pine Hallow's postmaster was Matt Cremer, and he was postmaster from the early 70's to 1879, when the postoffice was then established in Cashton and Mr. Surdam was its first postmaster. In the year 1878 the Northwestern Railroad Company started to build a road from Summit, in Monroe county, to Viroqua, in Vernon county, and some grading was done along the line, but it appears this work was transferred over to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad system and work was then begun on the present line of the road to Melvina, from where the Hon. H. H. Cremer was the first to buy a ticket to Sparta over that road, December 25, 1878, and in 1879 the road was completed to Viroqua, and the village platted, which was named Cashton in honor of W. H. Cash, of New Lisbon, Wis. The village was situated on section thirty and people now began buying lots and buildings sprang up like magic. William Byries, Tate Nelson, Matt Cremer, William Kissel, F. Delle and many others erected business buildings, blacksmith shops and the like, and sooner than the space of one year it became quite a thrifty village, though under the town government, and in 1891 the village was incorporated under the statutes of this state and began to operate its own affairs.

The town of Jefferson has from its earliest organization, 1855-1858, to the present time progressed in its farming and dairy interests, and its people have kept abreast of the other towns in the county. It is now considered one of the best towns

in Monroe county, having in its domain the village of Melvina, with its schools and church, the magnificent church of St. Mary's, a parochial school and district schools; and Pine Hallow, with St. Peter's and St. Paul's church and its parochial school, and district schools, and also two more schools of modern styles, making in all eight schools. The population is over eleven hundred. Two lumber yards and a mill at Melvina, and various industries now existing at the village of Cashton comprising the many improvements; the people are active and industrious.

At this time only two of the earliest settlers survive, Henry H. Cremer and Quirin Schreier; the rest have gone to their long reward, so that many doubtless interesting incidents of the hardships and trials of those early pioneers are forever lost. Its present officers are William Heiser, chairman; R. Bruggeman and W. Mullenberg, supervisors; H. J. Willgrub, clerk; Frank W. Schreier, treasurer, and Peter Jost, assessor.

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. MARY'S.

This, the oldest religious community in the county of Monroe, was founded in the fall of 1856 by ten immigrant families from Germany. They were at the same time the first settlers of what is known as St. Mary's ridge, in the towns of Jefferson, Wells, and Sheldon. Their names are: John Schreier and family, Peter Schreier, Herman Schreier, Quiram Schreier, Louis Schotten, Fred Gross, Herman Baus and family, Hilary Karis and family, Peter Michels and family, Math. Butzler and family, Gerhard Butzler, Philip Beckler and Jacob Nelles. Mr. Peter Schreier was the first to arrive on the ridge and having explored the surroundings called the rest of his friends in the fall of 1856. The year following fifteen more families from the fatherland increased the young colony. Among these were Peter Schiefer, Hilary Schotten, Peter Gross, Herman Wacker, Casper Schieffer, Herman Flock, Henry Schmitz, Casper Schmitz, John Schaaf, Martin Jungferndorf, William Brueggen, Adam Kohlgraf, John Gross and Christ Brueggen. These settlers were nearly all from the shores of the Rhine. The first ground was donated to this congregation by Caspar Schieffer. It forms the present St. Mary's cemetery, where nearly all these old settlers were finally laid to rest. The first burial, Mrs. Peter Gross, took place July 7, 1857. The first religious services were held under the open sky. Rev. Henry Tappert, at the time the only Catholic priest in LaCrosse, took charge of this new community as a mission, traveling the distance of forty miles with a team of oxen, at

regular intervals. First Catholic services were conducted in Monroe county here on the ridge by Rev. Tappert in the home of Hilary Schotten, the present home of Mr. Godfry Butzler, 1857. The first Catholic church built in Monroe county was the log church built by the farmers at St. Mary's, twenty by thirty feet, and this developed to be the center of Catholic worship for all the different nationalities. The oldest church record existing dates from the year 1858, kept by Peter Gross, and enumerates thirty-nine families.

In the year 1860 the postoffice was started at St. Mary's. The first incumbent United States postmaster was Casper Schmitz.

In 1861 Rt. Rev. Michael Henni, bishop of Milwaukee, visited the Catholics in Monroe county at St. Mary's for the first time.

The year 1862 mentions in the church records the arrival of the first Irish Catholic settlers in this locality, James Murphy, Thomas Sullivan, B. McDermit, and P. Haney. In 1868 the little church had outgrown the increasing community and seventy-six families registered to support the erection of a new church. The same was built in 1869 at a cost of $3,200. The Rev. S. Florentine was the first resident Catholic priest in Monroe county. He was succeeded by Rev. Michael Heiss. All of Monroe county was under his administration and the records here mention births and baptisms from all over the county. A document dating from the year 1868 records in most solemn words, the dedication and consecration of two church bells. Rev. Herman Gross, a man of exceptional talents and deep piety, was Rev. Michael Heiss's successor. He organized from St. Mary's the present congregation of Bad Ax, in Vernon county. The congregation at Cashton and Pine Hollow was also branched off from St. Mary's at this time.

A mission was held here, Catholic revival, by the then well-known Rev. Becker, S. J., and later on by the old pioneers, Revs. Port and Newbrand, S. J., in 1879 and 1890. Rev. Willibald Hackner had charge of St. Mary's twice. Among the other well-known pastors are to be mentioned Revs. John G. Laurer, J. M. Wicker, J. J. Meyer, Willibald Mahowald, O. S. B. This congregation was incorporated under the laws of Wisconsin, December 24, 1883. Our church records mention the founding of Norwalk in 1873 and report that the place was first called Dover. (?) Mr. Quirin Schreier, an old settler, taking the census in 1880 mentions that Cashton was a town of forty-one souls. The first Catholic school at St. Mary's was conducted by Mr. Quirin

Schreier. The present substantial stone school building was erected in 1889. The graded school of eight grades is conducted by the Sisters of St. Francis, from LaCrosse, and frequented by 130 children. It is heated by steam and is a free school. The present St. Mary's church, unquestionably one of the most stately houses of worship in the county, was built in 1897 by Mr. Henry Roettiger, a well-known contractor, of Fountain City. The building measures 122x50 feet, with a tower of 140 feet. It is constructed of stone and cream brick and conforms to the old gothic style. The church is heated by steam. The furniture, its altars, pulpit, etc., are productions of the E. Hackner Co., of LaCrosse, Wis. The fresco painting and two original ten by fourteen feet large scriptural oil paintings complete the building. This church, though far in the country, is visited by many strangers and has drawn forth much wonder and admiration. The building was twice damaged by lightning, and consequently is now also protected by the latest approved rods. It is estimated to represent a present valuation of about $50,000.

Since 1904 Rev. John Kaiser is the pastor. He is assisted by Mr. H. M. Flock, present chairman, of Ridgeville, and Mr. Fred Degenhardt, as trustee. The congregation numbers 140 families; 110 of same are Germans and the remainder are of Irish descent. Services are given every Sunday in both languages. The community increases annually by an average birth number of 30, against which there are about six to ten funerals. The congregation owns about seven acres of land whereon its church, parsonage, teachers' residence and school house are placed. All the buildings have modern improvements and are substantially built. The members of St. Mary's church are frugal, industrious, charitable, healthy and God-fearing, and consequently happy and abundantly blessed.

REV. JOHN KAISER.

SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.

PINE HOLLOW.

The first meeting in order to start SS. Peter and Paul's congregation was held at the old home of Mr. Henry H. Cremer, December 14, 1867. The pioneers who took part in organizing the parish were the following: Henry H. Cremer, Peter Heintz, Michael Berens, Bernard Leis, Peter Basenach, Matt Henitz, Joseph Koessler, Peter Krall, Anthony Schmelzer, Peter Bredel, Henry Bergs, Peter Hansen, Adrian Miller, Adam Mihlbaner,

Simon Betz, Gerard Butzler, and Peter Klinkner. These seventeen men went to work and built a frame church on the same place where we find the cemetery-chapel today. In this church the services were held for about seven years. On June 24, 1875, a cyclone took the building from its foundation, leaving a pile of ruins. By that time the number of families had become forty and these forty at once started a new church at the place donated to the congregation by Mr. Henry Bergs. The church was built of stone, as one of the old members remarked at the time: "One of rock on rock so no wind can blow it down again." This building was enlarged in the year 1896, so by this time it is 118 feet long. Until 1886 the services were conducted by the respective pastors of St. Mary's, five miles northeast of Pine Hollow. In 1886 a parsonage was erected, and the same year SS. Peter and Paul's congregation had its first resident pastor, namely, Rev. Anthony Havestadt, now pastor of Big River, Wis. He worked for the welfare of the parish till 1892, when the present pastor, Rev. Peter Schnitzler, took charge of the place. In 1893 SS. Peter and Paul's Catholic school was built, which is in charge of the Dominican Sisters of Racine. The number of pupils are about one hundred. While the congregation was started by seventeen members, today, September 18, 1911, we count 156 families, with 1,025 souls. The pastor, Rev. P. Schnitzler, is also attending to St. Patrick's church in Vernon county, seven and one-half miles southeast of Cashton.

LAGRANGE.

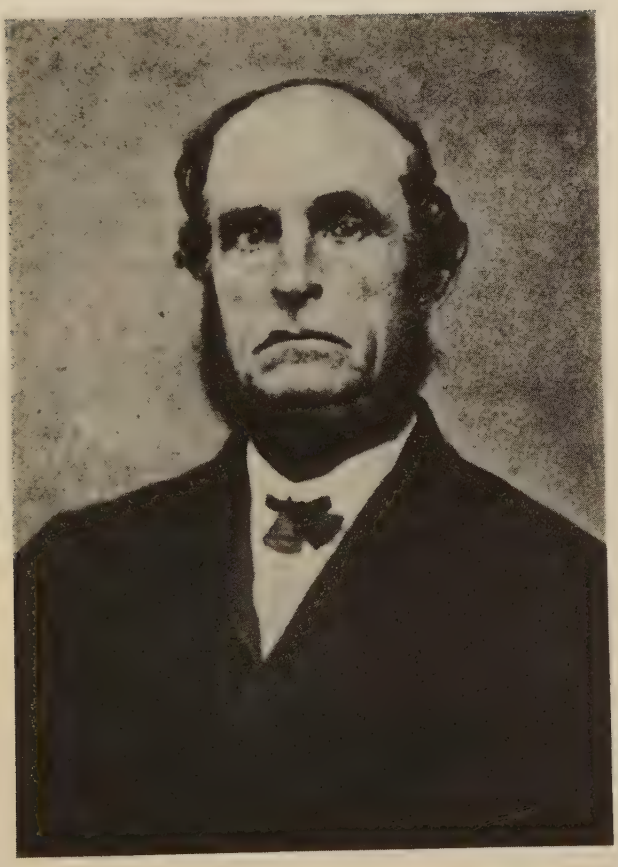
This town was one of the late ones in its organization, being originally a part of the town of Lincoln. It was set off by the county board November 13, 1873, and its first election held at the Dodgeville school house on the first Tuesday of April, 1874.

The history of the town is closely allied with that of Lincoln and early records cannot be obtained. It has developed into one of the wealthiest towns in the county in farming lands, and now boasts of a railroad station on the Northwestern line, constructed as the Milwaukee, Sparta and Northwestern originally, which runs through the town. It sent many men into the war of the rebellion, those who enlisted in Monroe county being given in another chapter. Within the limits of this town is situated the government Indian school, described elsewhere. From this town have come many men prominent in county affairs and to attempt to name them all in this brief outline would be too much of a task should a sketch of each be attempted. Elsewhere in

this work will be found the lives of many of its prominent citizens, and these go in great part to make up the history of the town. The present officers are: W. E. Bolton, chairman; W. Houn and George Heser, supervisors; G. M. Prickett, clerk; treasurer, A. N. Getman; assessor, N. J. Forrest; justice, A. J. Vandervort. Population, 1,124.

TOWN OF LAFAYETTE.

The town of Lafayette was organized in the spring of 1856, being detached from the town of Angelo. The first town meeting was held at the residence of L. A. Farr, on section twenty-six, on the first day of April, 1856, with John Foster, Andrew Lansing and Jacob L. Sargent acting as inspectors of election. The whole number of votes cast at this election was thirty-four, resulting in the following named persons being elected the first officers of the town: Chairman, John Foster; supervisor, Andrew Lansing, A. H. Isham; clerk of town, G. B. Holden; town treasurer, L. A. Farr; town superintendent of schools, Edward Marten; town assessor, Leonard Phillips; justices, Jacob L. Sargent, Charles Dickinson, Edgar H. Eddy and Charles Wilson; constables, Roswell Smith, Amos M. Baldwin and Henry F. Dresden; sealer of weights and measures, Smith Austin. During the summer vacancies occurred in the offices of chairman, of town board and superintendent of schools, John Foster moving from town. W. J. Tucke was chosen at the fall election to fill out his unexpired term, and William Bush was chosen to fill out the unexpired term of Edward Masters as superintendent of schools, Masters having absconded. At the fall election of 1856 forty-six votes were cast, an increase of twelve during the summer. At the 1857 election fifty-five votes were cast; at the town meeting of 1858, eighty-one votes were cast; at the general election of 1859, seventy-one votes were cast; at the general meeting of 1860, ninety-seven votes were cast; at the general election of 1868, ninety-eight votes were cast. In 1871 or 1872 the county board annexed to the town of LaFayette town nineteen, formerly known as the town of Eaton. To this the people of LaFayette were decidedly opposed and petitioned Mr. A. H. Isham, who was chosen chairman of the town the following year, to use his influence with the county board to get rid of that territory, the result being that at the county board meeting of 1872 or 1873 the town of New Lyme was organized, being the old town of Eaton.



WILLIAM I. BUSH

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In 1854 Lloyd Angle came to Monroe county from Buffalo, N. Y., stopping for a short time in Angelo, where his brother, Dr. Seth Angle, had preceded him and had located, soon after building a saw and grist mill, but Lloyd Angle located in LaFayette, on section twenty-nine, on what is now known as the Sargent farm; in the summer of 1853 built the first farm house in the town, an excellent building for the times, which burned down a few years later. Lyman D. Roescott came from Waukesha county in 1853, and located on section twenty-eight. In 1853 Rev. William Bush came from New York state, bought the north half of section thirty-three, and in September, 1855, moved his family to their new home. The family consisted of his wife, formerly Ursula Graves, and four children, O. R., by a former wife; Mary E., William E., George W. and Nettie U., born in 1859. L. A. Farr, who came from Ohio in 1841, locating in Dane county, moved to the town of LaFayette in 1855, locating on section twenty-nine, where the town hall now stands. The following year he became associated with John Foster in building the first sawmill in the town. This was the beginning of the village of LaFayette, or "Best Point," as it was first called. About 1857 A. A. Noyes came from Baraboo and built a grist mill at Tar Falls, on Tar Creek; in 1857 Spicer Shaw came from New York state and built a tavern, the first hotel in town, which he opened and called the "York State House." A store was opened by a man named Grant and another man by the name of Ranny; a shoe shop was started by A. H. Southard and a blacksmith shop by Henry Fabin.

In 1858 the Milwaukee & LaCrosse railroad was built through, going within less than a mile of the village, which was now a hummer, contractors and railroad men for a time making it their headquarters. About this time Noah Dickman commenced the erection of a large hotel, two stories and a basement, but he was too slow, for before it was finished the boom collapsed and it was never occupied. It went afterwards by the name of "Noah's Ark." The York State House was for a time after that kept by Charles Dickman, who came from Sparta. During the building of the mills, stores and the railroad, and for two or three years afterward LaFayette was a busy point, but nothing now marks it except the old residence of Mr. Farr on the north bank of Tar creek. Among the early settlers was Levi St. John, coming from Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1855.

His daughter, Emma St. John, is believed to be the first white child born in the town. H. G. Shaw arrived in 1857 with a family of six. J. C. Dana came from New York state in 1855, locating on section fifteen, having married Evetine P. Eddy, and before coming west two children were born to them, Milo J. and Edith E. Mr. Dana died in 1892. Mrs. Dana still lives in the town at the home of her grandson, Ralk E. Dana. In 1855 T. J. Rowan came to Monroe county from Ohio, for a time stopping in Big Creek valley, soon after locating in LaFayette township. In the same year there came with Rev. William Bush, Rev. Nathaniel Graves and wife, with one son, W. E., and a daughter, Olive, who afterwards married J. M. Morrow. Nathaniel Graves located on section twenty-nine and soon afterwards opened a blacksmith shop, believed to be the first one in operation in the town.

Abner H. Isham, native of New York, came to Monroe county from Rock county in 1853, purchased 223 acres of land in section twenty-nine, then a part of Angelo, and in 1855 moved his family to his new home. Mr. Isham was a man of large qualities of heart and mind, public-spirited, generous, helpful and hopeful, a man to tie to as a friend; a trusted public servant, as evidenced by the fact that for more than thirty-five years he was one of the superintendents of the poor of Monroe county. He was a prominent Mason and attained high honors among his brethren; a believer in Christianity and a friend and helper of every Christian and moral movement.

M. V. B. Morse, born and raised in New Hampshire, came to the town in 1856; C. N. Wright came with him from the same place and located in the town, afterwards moving to Sparta in the 60's. Soon after Mr. Morse's arrival A. H. May, his brother-in-law, came, and together they purchased 440 acres of land in Bush Prairie, and until May's death conducted this large farm under the firm name of Morse & May.

C. E. Hanchett, a native of New York, came first to the town of Angelo in 1856, buying land in LaFayette at about the same time. Here he developed a fine farm, was an up-to-date farmer and a good business man. He built the second frame barn erected in the town, William Bush, his neighbor, building the first. George E. Hanchett came at the same time as C. E. and bought land in LaFayette, and at first opened up a blacksmith shop. He developed a fine farm and entered in later years into the fruit business which his son, William H., has continued. William H. was born and raised in the town and has acquired

great prominence in agricultural circles. He was one of the original promoters of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association and for many years has been its president; established, in company with his brother-in-law, E. A. Smith, the Wisconsin Fruit Packers' Company, at North Crandon; is president of the Monroe County Guernsey Breeders' Association.

Roswell Smith, so well and favorably known, who recently died, came in 1855, being here at the organization of the town. A. W. Smith, a brother, commonly known as "Gus," came first in 1855, and permanently located in the town in 1856, and at about the same time Peter Frye arrived and located.

Joseph Covey came in the spring of 1855 from Illinois, locating on section thirty-three. J. J. French came to the town in the 50's, settled on section twenty-nine and opened up and developed a large farm; was treasurer of the town during his residence there. He afterwards moved to the city of Sparta, where he resided until his death. I. W. Cooper was another early settler, coming from Connecticut, buying 200 acres in section twenty-one.

Lewis D. Evans soon after emigrating to America from Wales settled in Waukesha county, remained there for seven years, moving to the town of LaFayette in 1854, buying a large tract of land in section eighteen, and by hard work and Welsh sagacity developed a fine farm, and in 1886, at the time of his death, was considered very well off. Charles T. Rhodes, originally from Connecticut, having worked for a time in Chicago in the McCormick Harvester Works, came to the town in the spring of 1855, buying several large tracts of land. Chandler Damman came to Wisconsin from Maine in 1844, settling in Dane county, and in 1857 removing to Monroe county, locating on the farm now owned by William Heasty.

Henry R. Jones and W. P. Williams came from Wales in 1865, locating in what is known as Welsh valley. Bruce E. McCoy settled at a point where the village used to stand afterward in 1868 and was very prominent in the development of the town from that time on. Space forbids the tracing of family histories, but this record shows that LaFayette had more than her share of good men in the early days, men who became prominent in county and state affairs. The town is finely developed and within its borders are many valuable small fruit farms, and it is also rich in dairying industry.

Its present officers are: J. A. Brown, chairman; Ed. Allendorf and Bernard Mukrenin, supervisors; C. W. Smith, clerk;

Albert Wyman, treasurer; A. J. Torrey, assessor; M. J. Dana, justice. Population, 387.

The first cheese factory in the town, and perhaps in the county, was established by Morse & Dunkart in 1871 or 1872.

About this time occurred what was perhaps the most remarkable flight and nesting of wild pigeons that ever occurred anywhere. About six or seven miles north of LaFayette mills the pigeons nested in the "grey pines"—myriads of them. The nests were so close together that there would frequently be from fifty to one hundred nests in one tree. It is related by B. E. McCoy, then a resident of the town, that they came on a Monday morning, and that the roar of their flight was as loud as the noise of a train of 100 cars on frozen ground. It was a great time for hunters and sportsmen; thousands upon thousands of them were killed or captured alive for the market, the Indians especially reaping a great harvest in the squab trade. This nesting occurred for two years, the first time being right at LaFayette mills, and the next about seven miles north, as stated.

At the time the Northwestern road was built to Sparta the town raised $2,000 in bonds for aid. This was the result of a visit into the town of J. M. Morrow, George Richardson, Dr. Gage and Mr. Montgomery, who endeavored to secure $4,000 from the town for that purpose.

In 1873, B. E. McCoy, then and for many years chairman of the town, made a notable fight on the county board, and later in the courts, over the sale of tax certificates on lands in the town. It appears that there was a very large amount of tax certificates outstanding on lands in the town which the county treasurer and clerk considered worthless, and the proposition was made at the session of the county board of that year to sell them to George Runkel, who offered ten cents on the dollar for them, and a resolution passed the board to sell at that figure. Mr. McCoy protested on behalf of the town and fought the resolution on the ground that it was poor policy, owing to probable illegalities, which might have to be made good at a considerably larger price. After the passage of the resolution formal protest was filed for LaFayette by Mr. McCoy.

A year or two after this Mr. McCoy, acting for the town, brought suit against the county to recover the face value of the tax certificates, as they had been charged back to the town and the town thus became the owner of them. The result of this litigation was that the county was compelled to pay to the town of

LaFayette $1,503 for the certificates, thus vindicating the action and judgment of Mr. McCoy.

Prior to the attempt of the government to remove the Winnebago Indians from this state to Nebraska, a council of the tribe was called by Governor Washburn to meet in the town of LaFayette. This council was held on what is now known as the Sargent place, about half a mile west of McCoy's mills. At this council there were about four hundred Winnebago Indians. Governor Washburn and the assistant secretary of war were there and conducted the negotiations with the Indians, who were subsequently taken west under the charge of Captain Hunt.

The great storm in March, 1876, did much damage in the town, and the Lafayette mill, in common with several mills of the county, was undermined and wrecked.

In 1890 the pasturage of cattle on a large scale was undertaken by B. E. McCoy and son, Colonel McCoy, on a portion of the lands now in the military reservation, a large part of which was owned by them. This was continued for several seasons with much success.

LEON.

The first settlement in this town, which at one time comprised the entire county of Monroe, was made in 1851 by Ephraim Shaw, who arrived in June, 1851. He took up some land and went to farming. This farm was afterwards sold to Robert Smith, who in 1880 erected a handsome brick residence almost upon the same site where Mr. Shaw's house stood. In August, 1851, W. J. Austin arrived in Leon, taking up 1,400 acres of land, 100 acres of which he cleared the first summer. The Austin holdings were the establishment of a great farm, which as years went by, was cut up into smaller farms, but was the foundation of the Austin fortune. It is related that on the fifth season of his farming operations he gathered a crop of 12,000 bushels of grain, 9,000 of which were oats, the balance wheat and corn.

On the fourteenth day of November, 1853, the village was platted and its inhabitants became convinced that it would eventually become the county seat of a new county, as it was then the only regularly platted settlement within the limits of the county, and as it developed later on the village did make a determined effort in 1854 to have the county seat located here in the bill which was before the legislature providing for the organization of Monroe county; but at that time the settlement

at Sparta had grown to such proportions and was situated on the main stage lines that it was successful over Leon in that contest; the village consequently has never grown to any great extent, being more of a trading point than anything else.

In July, 1851, R. S. Kingman and his two brothers, Rosalvo and Alvarado, came from Ashtabula, O., and settled in the town. Mr. Kingman afterwards went to Sparta and was closely connected with the early history and development of that village and city. About this time many settlers came in and the population increased rapidly. A postoffice was established in 1856, was discontinued after a few years, but was again re-established and has existed there ever since.

In 1861 a grist mill was built by C. F. Western, who ran it about a year, when it was purchased by Mr. Austin in 1862. The mill at one time during his ownership had four run of stone and turned out as high as 150 barrels of flour a day. The mill is furnished by a fine water power equal to forty-eight horse power and today is used principally as a feed mill.

Among the early settlers aside from those mentioned were A. H. Gilliland, who came in 1853; W. S. Jewell, who came the same year; A. H. Matteson, who arrived in 1858; Charles J. Matteson, who settled in the town in 1854, built a store and engaged in the mercantile business for about twelve years; afterwards went to farming. H. A. Link, who came in June, 1853. His son, the Hon. W. W. Link, still resides in the town and is the oldest living settler. He has been prominent in Monroe county affairs and is living a peaceful life on his estate at an advanced age. In the early days a tavern was kept at Leon by D. M. West, who wanted the town named "Miranda," after his wife, but the name was proposed by a man named Lawton, who said it reminded him of a beautiful little valley he had seen in Mexico called Leon. The early settlers liked it, so Leon it was. Peter DeCoursey, who was one of the first county board, came in 1851 with his father, Isaac; Samuel Wakeman, Reuben Kudney, Nelson P. Carrier in 1852; Arthur Jewel, John Oakley and Henry Oakley, 1854; Hiram Hutchins and Henry Vanetten, in 1855; David Johns and Lewellen Johns, in 1853; James Morton, the stage driver, and Samuel Greenman, in 1852.

The first religious service in the town was in the 50's by a Congregational minister named Reynolds sent out by a missionary society in the East to preach the gospel to the "heathen" in Leon. He did not stay very long.

Leon is truly one of the garden spots of the county. Its

beautifully situated farms, highly developed, are among the richest to be found anywhere. There are two creameries in the town, one situated in the settlement and the other on the farm of Ernest Austin, one-fourth of a mile south of the village. There are three churches in the town, the oldest being the Congregational, and the next in point of time the Methodist church. At one time an Advent church was maintained for a time, but went out of existence for lack of support. There is a Norwegian Lutheran church situated on Fish creek ridge, about five miles from the village, which has a large congregation.

The present officers of the town are: A. E. Evenson, chairman; Ben Lee and Clyde Richardson, supervisors; Winfield Link, clerk; Ben Fox, treasurer; E. C. Solberg, assessor; Justice, Ben Fox. Population, 751.

TOWN OF LINCOLN.

Was set off November 22, 1860; originally included territory comprised in it and towns of LaGrange and Grant. In April, 1861, the first town meeting was held, at which W. L. Hayward was elected chairman; M. C. Hart and Benjamin Miller, supervisors; William Parsins, town clerk; C. C. Miller, town superintendent; A. Maynard, assessor, and William Farnum, town treasurer.

The first settler in the territory of the present town, which is township nineteen, range one west, was either W. T. Maynard or a man by the name of Isaac Cooper, each of whom came into the town in 1855. In 1857 Hannibal Hamlin Lamb came and erected a building which became familiarly known as "Lamb's Tavern" until it was burned down, the last occupant of which was a son of the original founder, and in this house was held the first town meeting, at which Calvin Beers was elected chairman; L. N. Sweet and William Randall, supervisors; W. A. Barber, town clerk; Clifford Woodard, treasurer, and J. L. Burk, assessor, this being a temporary organization.

The first sawmill in this new town was built in 1861 and was known as "Beer's mill," but reliable information shows that it was built by other parties. It was in this mill that the first school was taught in the town, and the first sermon preached, and the first Sunday school held within its walls. The first sermon was preached by old Elder Medd, as he was familiarly known, and one other minister, who came into the town early and was known as "Pappy Lea," who also conducted services here. About the

year 1863 Emory's sawmill and also Snow's mill were built. Emory's mill was later known as Lowrie's, and in this mill a boiler explosion killed, or fatally injured, John Liddle and Mr. Gilson, the father of W. E. Gilson, who is at present a resident of the town.

In 1867 Warren and Gamble built the sawmill at the place which is now the village of Warrens, and there has been several stationary and portable sawmills located in the town for a portion of the time, but only one of early date, which became established as a permanent business, is the George Warren Company, of Warrens, which conducted a sawmill business for a great many years, and it has now become a mill for finishing lumber ready for the builder. This firm has grown to such proportions that they now conduct a blacksmith shop, repair shop, grist mill and a bank, each business being located in commodious buildings.

There is also located at Warrens the Rex Manufacturing Company, owned by C. O. Snipper, and this plant is a sawmill and planing mill, manufacturing and repair shop, and is conducted in a substantial stone building. For the first years of its existence and up to 1871 mail for this town came directed to Tomah, but at that date a postoffice was established near Warren's mills, and James Gamble became the first postmaster, serving until 1875, when W. A. Barber was appointed, and he has served continuously in that capacity up to the present time. The name of the postoffice was changed to Warrens. For the southern portion of the township mail was received at the Tomah postoffice until the establishment of a postoffice at Kirby and then there was a weekly, and afterwards, a daily service from Warrens until the rural routes were established. In the township there are now three rural routes starting from Warrens which, to a great extent, cover the town.

The cranberry business is of considerable importance and has been for a great many years. Much capital has been invested in improving the cranberry marshes, until now it has become a permanent industry. Here also at the village of Warrens is a profitable point for the sale of wild blueberries and blackberries, and quite a number of farmers in this vicinity have gone into raising strawberries, raspberries and cultivated blackberries, so that it is a rapidly growing industry, and even apples are being raised to some extent on the heavier soil of the ridge lands. The town has many up-to-date and progressive farmers, and in common with most of the towns in the county, the dairying industry has become prominent and the breeding of thoroughbred cattle

is undertaken by its more advanced farmers with great success.

During the Civil War the town furnished four soldiers, all brothers, and were the sons of Landlord Lamb, of "Lamb's Tavern:" Louis A. Lamb, Galon A. Lamb, Henry Lamb, and William Lamb, who all returned honorably discharged, Galon A. being the only one wounded, and he still resides in the town. Some of the earlier pioneers are still living, notably L. N. Sweet and wife, C. R. Baker and wife, W. A. Barber and wife, Clifford Woodard and wife, George Munson, F. G. Warren, Louis Morse, T. R. Gillett, B. L. Gillett, L. L. Gillett, and W. H. Gillett.

The present town officers are: George F. Goff, chairman; August Burkholz and J. P. Pederson, supervisors; H. H. Harris, clerk, and L. B. Lauser, treasurer.

An incident is told of one of the earlier settlers, an old-time hunter, Silas Patterson, who bears on his person the marks of an attack of a large black bear, being at that time (not many years after the Civil War) in need of aid in purchasing supplies for a hunting trip. Mr. F. G. Warren was asked by Patterson to loan him the money with which to make the purchase, stating that if Mr. Warren would trust him he would pay him as soon as he got the bounty on a nest of young wildcats he had located. Mr. Warren replied that he "did not care to take chances on wildcat security," but much to his surprise, a few days later Silas came in, bringing the cats and exclaiming, "What did I tell you!"

At the breaking out of the Spanish-American war Lincoln sent two men, Mett Rose and James Larson, who enlisted in Company K, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, served through the campaign in Porto Rico, returning with that regiment in October, 1898, and were mustered out.

The town of Grant was from 1874 to 1899 a part of the town of Lincoln.

Present officers: Geo. E. Goff, chairman; August Burkholz and J. P. Pederson, supervisors; H. H. Harris, clerk; M. P. Laursen, treasurer; Melvin Mosher, assessor; W. C. Goff and T. R. Gillett, justices. Population, 902.

TOWN OF LITTLE FALLS.

There is no record of the organization of the town of Little Falls in the proceedings of the county board of this county. It seems that at the time of the organization of this county the territory comprised in the town of Little Falls and what was then known as the town of Eaton on the east of it was supposed to be in Jackson county, and these two towns were originally

organized and their first meetings held as a part of that county, but subsequently the mistake was discovered and the chairman of the town board of Little Falls appeared at the annual session of the county board of Monroe county in November, 1856, claiming a seat as a member of that body. Objection was raised to this, but the reason for it does not appear upon the record. After some discussion and consideration of the matter the board finally voted to give the supervisor from the town of Little Falls a seat with all the rights of a member, and W. W. Benton was duly sworn in as the first member of the county board from the town of Little Falls on November 11, 1856. Settlers came into the town early and began developing its farm and timber lands and water powers. Perhaps the oldest settler in point of time was William Printz, who came in 1852, being some two years before the county itself was organized, and the point near Cataract was, in fact, one of the first localities in which settlers began to take up land. He was followed by Thomas Richards in 1854, and the other pioneers in order in which they came were George Walters, 1855; Mr. Hovey, 1855, who kept a store; Bert Mathews, 1856; M. P. Matteson, 1856; C. W. Johnson, 1857; John H. Brackett, 1864.

There were many other settlers between 1856 and 1860, but it has been impossible to mention them all. It is sufficient to say that they were men of sturdy character and helped to build up the early industries of the town, laying the foundation for the future, which has surely proved their worth. There is a fine water power at the present site of the village of Cataract which has been in use for a great many years and at one time furnished the power for a woolen mill, which was erected there and has since run various institutions, including saw mills and a grist mill.

Between the years 1850 and 1860 the town of Little Falls saw some very lively times. There was no railroad then at Black River Falls, as Sparta became the first railroad point. Little Falls being situated on the way between these two towns there was considerable teaming done, not only from Sparta up to the lumber woods, but also in the other direction. Freight was hauled back and forth and a stage made daily trips each way between Cataract and Sparta and to Black River Falls, another line running also from Sparta and Cataract up to Eau Claire, and during this period and later these stage lines and freight hauling companies did an immense amount of travel. The town being situated as it was, became a sort of center for a stopping place for

travelers, and at one time there were six hotels in the town, two at the village of Cataract, one at Max Craig's, one at Sam Bacon's, one at Hugh Gallagher's, and one at Pett's tavern.

At the breaking out of the Civil War the citizens of Little Falls came forward handsomely to take up the gun for their country. On the call for three months' men Harold Walker and George Pomeroy were the first to enlist, and at the second call David Douglas, Perry Walker and Alonzo Barr were the first to put down their names and enter the service, and all three were subsequently killed. All of the men who went to the front from this town volunteered, and none had to be drafted. LaRoy Farr, then eighteen years of age, left his home as a first lieutenant, was taken prisoner at his first battle, which was Pittsburg Landing, and was put in prison at Andersonville. Later he was sent to Macon, Ga., and when he was finally released his health was broken down. The veterans who enlisted in the various military organizations in the rebellion from the town of Little Falls were as follows: Samuel Janes, Warren Pomeroy, George Pomeroy, Anthony Trumbly, Thomas McCumber, Samson LaBew, William Henry Washburn, Robert A. Duws, H. H. Atchison, John Baker, Isaac Matteson, Charles Matteson, LeRoy Farr, Albert Matthews, C. W. Johnson, Austin S. Beemer, David Douglas, Perry Walker, Harold Walker, John Locke, William Dodson, Adam Carnahan, Archie Carnahan, Andrew Carnahan, Charles Edwards, Chub Sanders, T. P. Loyd, John Martin, DeLos Head, Mr. Birge, Bert Matthews, Alonzo LaBarr, Robert McLain, George Cross, Philo Walker, Mr. Brennan, Henry Crossen, Cummins Sprout and Rushbrok Sweet.

Most of the town is now well developed and the village of Cataract has become quite a little settlement, situated as it is near a good water power and is a convenient trading point for the farmers living in the vicinity. The town has furnished from its citizens several men who have acquired prominence in the county affairs, among whom may be named the Scantletons, father and son; Myron Brackett, who for a number of years was a member of the county board and later served as supervisor of assessment until the office was abolished; A. J. Carnahan, who now resides at Sparta, but who was elected as sheriff while a resident of the town; Hugh Gallagher, who was chairman during the railroad agitation, when the now defunct Sparta-Melrose railroad was cutting a good deal of figure, and many others who have helped manage the affairs of their town and county.

During 1908-09-10 there was considerable excitement through-

out the town over the bonding of it to aid in building the Sparta-Melrose railroad, which was then under consideration, and a rather warm meeting was held upon the proposition at which the citizens took sides, which finally culminatetd in a lawsuit to declare the bonds illegal. The town lost the litigation but in the course of time the railroad bond limit expired and the Sparta-Melrose railroad has become a matter of history, and it may also be said that it never made any history, it being a project on paper principally, from start to finish.

The present officers of the town are: D. R. Richards, chairman; Jacob Walters and Obert Isensee, supervisors; Neil Hanson, clerk; J. T. Scantleton, treasurer; W. F. Schmelling, assessor, and G. S. Greeno, justice of the peace.

NEW LYME.

This is one of the later towns, the territory embraced in it being originally a part of LaFayette, and its early history, therefore, is that of the latter town. It was organized in 1872 and the town was also at one time included in what was known as the town of Eaton, no longer in existence, but the sketch of its early history being given later on in this chapter.

The present town officers are: L. R. Hoard, chairman; Ezeb Veir and David Fletcher, supervisors; Robert Prescott, clerk; John B. Meyer, treasurer; Leo Richmond, assessor; L. D. Prescott, justice. Population, 281.

OAKDALE.

On November 12, 1857, the county board cut off the territory now comprised in Oakdale and created a new town under the name of Leroy. At the session of the county board in November, 1862, the name was changed to Oakdale.

Among the earlier settlers were E. Meloy and Daniel Dame, in 1854; Enoch Baker and William Y. Baker, 1855; Lewellan Amidon and Seth Chase, in 1856. The first building erected was a log cabin built by E. Meloy on section seventeen; the first church on the ground was the Catholic, which began services on Indian creek, three miles south of Oakdale station, in 1869. In 1857 a school house was built and school commenced with a small number of pupils, Miss Emma Baker being the teacher.

The town had the ordinary existence of towns in the county, developing with the coming of the railroad, settlement being quite rapid after that. Nothing of consequence disturbed the peaceful occupation of its inhabitants until 1907. On Wednes-

day, July 3rd, of that year the town was visited with a cyclone which passed through the towns in the northeastern part of the county and was particularly severe in this town. The line of the storm was from Jackson county down through a portion of the town of Lincoln, across the east side of LaGrange, through the southwest corner of Byron, and then midway through the town of Oakdale.

The cyclone struck Oakdale near J. C. Hill's farm and destroyed Mr. Hill's barns and other buildings, except his house. All of the buildings on the farms of Mr. Myers and Mr. Musser were destroyed, as were also all the buildings on the farm of Fred Gabower. Mr. Myers had his arm broken and Mr. and Mrs. Musser saved themselves by going into the woods and clinging to small trees. The little village settlement was right in the path of the cyclone. The houses of B. C. Dame and A. N. Maltby were completely destroyed, and Daniel Dame killed. Nothing but the foundation of Mr. Dame's house remained. Mr. Maltby's house was moved a little from its foundation and crushed into kindling wood; the windmill, barns, sheds and everything on the premises were swept away. Robert Smith was killed also, and many persons received injuries more or less severe. Trees were uprooted or were broken off, some were left standing with the bark completely stripped off from them. Mr. Johnson's store was moved slightly from its foundation, part of the roof torn off and the windows smashed. Syverson's elevator, containing 1,350 bushels of oats, was unroofed and wrecked and the grain scattered all over the country.

The amount of damage done in the town of Oakdale is hard to estimate, but it ran up into many thousands of dollars. In addition to the destruction of the buildings mentioned the barn on Jackson Prell's farm was wrecked and Fred Gabower, in addition to the loss of his buildings, lost all his crops and a fine orchard.

The present officers of the town are: George Kelk, chairman; Richard Wagner and Charles Shelby, supervisors; W. W. Hughart, clerk; Joseph Tiber, treasurer; R. A. Weiss, assessor; A. N. Maltby, justice. Population, 813.

PORTLAND.

This town was organized in 1858 and the first election of town officers held April 5, 1859, in the school house situated on section thirteen. The officers elected at that time were: Richard Cole, chairman; Peter Schreier and John E. Stevens, supervisors;

Adolph Heiser, clerk; Albert Fisher, treasurer; J. J. Willsey and J. McFarland, assessors; James Draper, superintendent of schools; J. E. Stevens, John Leigh and Adolph Heiser, justices; Solomon Roberts and Albert Fisher, constables; John Cleaves, sealer of weights and measures.

Among the first settlers in the town were Adam Russell, who held the position of postmaster at what was then called Mt. Pisgah, and operated a tavern, or stopping place, for travelers located on section thirteen, on the so-called Black river road, where it is related Gen. Jeremiah Rusk, then a stage driver on the line between Sparta and Viroqua, stopped for refreshment for man and beast.

In 1857 or 1858 Jacob Hazen came and started the first store on section thirty-six at what is called "Hazen's Corners." In 1858 James Lord settled on section thirty-six and started a store with a bar in connection, which did not last long. The women in the community made a raid on the saloon, carried the kegs outside, opened the bung holes and let the evil spirits run at large. The first dwelling recorded is that located on section twenty-three, which was erected in the early 50's by a man named Hayden. Among the earliest settlers were Sam Krahenbuhl, F. A. Meissner, David Kallicut, Thomas Clegg, J. Phillips, Henry Willsey, J. E. Stevens, J. J. Willsey, John B. Skinner, Christoff Cleaves, H. Troop, James Spaulding, Christ Brown, D. Jones, E. E. Evans, H. H. Barber, Matt Sturdevant and Eric Peterson.

The town furnished about seventeen soldiers during the Civil War: James Halverson, J. J. Willsey, John E. Stevens, J. B. Skinner, Martin Erickson, Louis Erickson, Wesley Sturtevant, Erick Peterson, Jacob Hazen, W. Stalker, Christ Brown, Lars Loom, Lars Peterson, Gustav Olson, Adrian Miller, Amund Hanson, and C. Cleaves.

Henry Willsey erected the first grist mill in 1859, and the first sawmill was built by David Killicut in 1864. The German Lutheran church was established in 1878. There is a very prosperous creamery located in the town, which enjoys a large number of patrons in the town. Portland is one of the richest farming territories in the county.

Its present officers are: T. R. Jones, chairman; Frank J. Mashak and Helmer Paulson, supervisors; Charles Perso, clerk; Ole C. Lee, treasurer; Martin A. Erickson, assessor. Population, 1,088.

TOWN OF RIDGEVILLE.

This town was organized on the first day of April, 1856, the first town meeting being held on the first Tuesday of April in this year, at which M. Aney, B. S. Blake and A. W. Gibbs were elected supervisors; Samuel H. Griswold, town clerk; George B. Aney, assistant clerk, and Anson Spinner, justice of the peace; later on A. W. Gibbs having moved away, Sanford A. Haushaw was appointed supervisor in his place on the 28th of January, 1857.

Among the first settlers was Manuel Metzger, who came direct from Germany and settled on a piece of land south of and near the present village of Norwalk, the farm now being owned by Mrs. Abraham Smith. He built a stone house of rough stone on a hillside, and this, undoubtedly, was the first building erected in the town of Ridgeville. From his early residence there the entire valley has acquired the name of "Metzger's valley," by which it is known even to the present time. At about the time that Metzger came other settlers drifted in, among whom were Silas McGary, Anson Spinner, L. H. Gonger, Sebastian Feldmuir, David Woodliff, George and M. Aney, John Bell, Henry Vieth, John Wallz, Jacob Aney, Carl Zimmerman, Oliver Hale and Isaac Hargrave, and many others, following each other so quickly that it is difficult to get all of the names.

The Lutherans erected the first church in this town in the year 1870, but prior to that time preaching had been had by an English Methodist preacher whose name cannot be recalled. The first sermon in German was delivered by Henry Esch, the father of Congressman John J. Esch. Mr. Esch later moved to Sparta. This sermon was delivered at the log school house in the town of Ridgeville, and after that for a number of years Mr. Esch held religious services in the German homes in that vicinity.

Beginning with the earlier days the cause of education received due attention, and soon after the organization of the town a small log building was erected upon Emanuel Metzger's farm, about three-fourths of a mile south of the present village of Norwalk, and school was opened and has continued. At about 1875 a frame building was erected in the village of Norwalk, one mile north of the first place.

In the War of the Rebellion this town furnished not less than thirty-nine soldiers, a record surely to be proud of, and while

their full name cannot in all cases be given, the following is the list as near as can be ascertained: Mr. Blum, Jacob Root, Abraham Fairbanks, John Brunner, C. Meyers, Jacob Hettman, Silas McCary, James Shanbin, Fred Vincenz, A. Vincenz, F. Bellerman, Henry Kroeger, William Munz, Tom McGary, John Woodliff, Henry McGary, Delos Crandel, Mr. Sherwin, Leander Perry, Thomas Jones, Samuel Jerred, Fred Smelling, Mr. Grosset, Mr. Vanalstine, J. C. Munz, George Munz, Mr. Banker, William Willup, John Holz, Mathew Flock, William Carr, Andrew Nolan, John Nolan, Oliver Hale, August Rath, William Charnleg, Sigmun Conger, Mr. Edwards and Mr. Richards.

This town in the earlier days was quite heavily timbered and attracted the business of lumbering, which was commenced by Haldeman Brothers and Luethe in 1887, by the erecting of a saw mill on the Morris creek, near the present school house. It was operated by steam and conducted for some time. A grist mill was built in the town in 1898 by Bergman Brothers and is still in operation. A feed mill was erected by Christ Hett and Eugene McGary in 1883-4.

The advantages for a trading point led Mr. Balz to build a store at what is known as Ridgeville, at the four-road crossing, where, at present, Paul Kewitt is living. This was erected in the early 50's, and after the Northwestern Railway was built, stores were built up by Dolson and Sanbert on or near the place where Norwalk is now situated.

Fred Hettman built a blacksmith shop near the railroad crossing, south of what is known as Norwalk in 1857, and at about the same time one was erected in Ridgeville by A. Englert on what is now one of Fred Zlemer's farms, so that in the early days nearly every requirement of the inhabitants as far as stores, mills and shops were concerned, was satisfied.

In 1894 the village of Norwalk was incorporated and thus became a separate municipality from the town.

With unceasing toil of the early German pioneers and continued by the later generations, the town of Ridgeville has become one of the richest farming communities to be found, perhaps, in this part of the state; its ridge lands are very fertile and beautiful farms can be found along the plateau raising crops of various kinds as well adapted to the growing of apples and other fruits.

Present officers: Fred W. Noth, chairman; Charles Hanisch and Fred Woodliff, supervisors; Fred F. Leuthe, clerk; Herman Wendorf, treasurer; Anton Kroeger, assessor; John H. Mannel and Andrew Anderson, justices. Population, 775.

TOWN OF SHELDON.

The first records of an election in this town was that of the second day of November, 1858. It was held at the mill of Millen Graham in the present village of Oil City. There appears to have been held, however, a town meeting on the fifth day of July, 1848, at which a temporary organization was effected and Millen Graham elected chairman; William Hubbard and Miner Moore, supervisors; W. J. Heath, clerk and assessor; William Abbott, treasurer, and Henry Esch, assistant assessor. Esau Johnson was the first settler in this town, having come in the year 1846, and was also the first man to settle in the county of Monroe. Soon after that others began to drift in and to work for him in the lumber business, and in the year 1856 quite a number had settled in this vicinity, among whom were Jacob Menn, Jacob Farmer, Henry Esch, Edward Warren, William A. Hubbard, George Daughtery, H. J. Smith, W. J. Heath, Elison McGee, Thomas Day, Tom Lewis, Patrick DeVany, Bernard Hamatty, George Shippe, Thomas Wilkins, Andres Molley, Ezra Cook, Fern Rawson, William Crichett, Joseph Tritett and M. M. Curpy.

The first building erected was a lumber shanty, built by Esau Johnson, on section twenty-four, in 1846, and it probably was the first structure of any kind erected in the county of Monroe; a church was built in 1860 by J. J. Menn, constructed of logs, and was a small building. Before that time services had been held in dwelling houses and school houses and the first sermon that was preached was by a man named John Hamilon, and not long after that services were conducted by Henry Esch and by Galusia and J. Brown.

The first school house was erected in 1856 and was taught by one Andrew Faust. It was located near the present village of Oil City. During the Civil War this town furnished more than its share of soldiers, some of whom were Millen Graham, John Switzler, George Lewis, W. P. Abbott, Andrew Wruck, Fredrick Talkey, Hod Lamg, George Daughtery, James Moomy, Edward J. Harris, David Eviur, Peter Singer, John Singer, William Schmitz, Christ Wruck, George Wilson, Martin Moore, L. C. Johnson W. J. Heath, Sam Wilkinson, E. B. Smith, Henry Johnson, Thomas and Eugene Sullivan, E. Tuttle, Louis Walker, Hen Holdcomb, Louis Everts, Andrew Molley, C. B. Stoddard, James Finnel, Edward and Henry Critchett, Elusion Rawson, Leonard Hutchins, Gilbert and Daniel Hutchins, Eles Prichard, John Granzo, L. Savier and Daniel Moore.

In common with other towns of the county, the lumber business commenced quite early, and the first saw mill was built by W. J. Heath in 1856 and was in existence quite a number of years. The first grist mill was erected by Millen Graham in the early 60's and the first store was conducted by William Chatman, beginning in 1868.

There are two churches in the town, one in the village of Ontario, and one about two miles south of Norwalk, which is a German Evangelical; the one situated in Ontario is conducted by the United Brethren and services are conducted in both at the present time by the same pastor, the Rev. Mave. There is considerable dairying among the farmers in this town and a creamery is located in Ontario, one, which at the present time does a large amount of business and a great deal of good to the surrounding farmers who have access to it.

Its present officers are Ben Drawver, chairman; R. Haldeman and John Barry, supervisors; Ed. Abbott, clerk; Sam Wruck, treasurer; Fred Schumacher, assessor; P. H. Marburger, justice. Population, 771.

TOWN OF SPARTA.

Closely connected with the history of the city of Sparta is that of the town, for it was all one at the beginning, and the settlers who came in and took up land at the point and vicinity of where the city now stands were the earliest settlers of the town of Sparta, notably the Petit boys, who first settled somewhere near Castle Rock, Rev. Walrath, J. D. Damman, A. H. Blake and the score or more of others, who are so fully mentioned in the chapter devoted to the city.

There are many who came in during the later fifties and early sixties, and to give a complete list of them would be a task, indeed; among them, however, may be mentioned Palmer Austin, who was an early settler in the fifties; A. P. Payne, also E. H. Eddy in 1854, and C. E. Peck, Mr. McMann and Josiah Tucker in the same year; O. M. Shattuck, 1856; John Hutson, Sr., and Sol Hutson, who settled in Big Creek in 1855 or 1856. Among those who came later were Peter Frye, Russell Brownell, John Winters, Henry Esch, Lansom Parks and R. H. Rogers.

The town of Sparta has prospered amazingly since the earlier days and its assessed valuation in 1911 reached the enormous sum of $1,016,526 and its equalized valuation $1,272,900; and among the towns in the county which have pushed the good roads movement this town has been the pioneer. In fact, the efforts made

by the town in this direction called itself to the attention of the state authorities and undoubtedly was one of the moving causes to the extensive plans for the improvement of country roads everywhere in the state, and to it, Chairman Aug Schlaver, now deceased, was due great credit for inaugurating it.

The town was originally organized October 3, 1854, by a resolution of the county board and was one of the first five towns into which the county was divided after the organization of it. An election was held the following spring in which a full complement of town officers was elected, the town board continuing to administer the municipal affairs of the entire territory within the limits, including the so-called village until the latter was incorporated and became a separate municipality, as has been elsewhere related.

The present officers of the town are J. P. Johnson, chairman; Evan Humphrey and J. T. Willgrubs, supervisors; A. J. Frye, clerk; W. P. Bamber, treasurer; Gothern Liddle, assessor. The population of the town, according to the census of 1910, was 1,504.

TOWN OF TOMAH.

Containing within its limits, as it did, from the earliest day the village of Tomah, the history of this town naturally is merged in that of the village; for it was here that the earlier settlers located and right around the territory of the village were built the first farm buildings of any kind and the first land was taken up for farms, so that the history of the city of Tomah is practically that of the whole township, except, of course, the development of the farming communities.

The town was organized by a resolution of the county board on November 13, 1856, with a provision for the election of officers on the first Tuesday in April following; the village then being a part of the town, participated in the election which was held at the house of John Sexton; John G. Staysa was elected chairman; supervisors, Benjamin Mel and C. A. Adams; clerk, Harvey Bush, and treasurer, Alden Cremer.

The early settlement of the town outside of the village was quite rapid, many coming in during the early fifties; among them were many names which are today familiar not only to the older residents, but to the present generation through their descendants. D. R. Meloy, who afterwards moved into the village and became a justice of the peace, came into the town in 1854, took up some land and went to farming; Charles Gilson, for so many years one of the most respected citizens of Tomah, came in May, 1854,

took land near the village, which he developed into the old Gilson farm, still owned in great part by his descendants. Of course, Jesse Boorman, who is mentioned in the chapter on the city; Harvey Bush was an 1854 comer, building the second log cabin in the town, was its first town clerk; Alden Cremer came in 1854, and also Isaac English, who took up 160 acres of land and added to it until he had a fine farm of 300 acres, with a fine frame dwelling and other buildings upon it; George I. Bell, afterwards in business, came with his parents in 1854, settling in the town.

Among the 1855 settlers was C. A. Adams, who went to farming; John G. Staysa, also a farmer; John Randall, who developed the Randall farm; Luther Hill, who settled in the eastern part of the town with Indians and wildcats as neighbors, but who, with foresight, selected the farm upon which he and his descendants have ever since lived.

John Hineman came in 1857 with his family, among them Hon. Miles Hineman, who has acquired considerable prominence in the state and is one of Monroe county's most progressive citizens. Many others might be mentioned, all of them men of the character of all the early settlers, willing and ready to endure the hardships incident to opening up a new country, confidently relying upon the fact that the future would bring forth its fruit, the result of honest toil, in which they were not disappointed.

At the headwaters of Council creek in the town, so it is told, stood the old council house used by the Winnebagoes and Menominee tribes; within whose walls, before the coming of the white man, doubtless was heard many stirring speeches of Indian eloquence, and it was here, so tradition states, that Tomah, the great Menominee chief, gathered his tribe in council.

The development of the town has been similar to that of other towns of the county, having the advantage, however, of the nearness to a market supplied by the village and city; it has fine farms, good schools and its people are progressive.

Its present officers are G. C. Pingel, chairman; C. Martin and A. Roscovius, supervisors; W. H. Randall, clerk; Dan Linehan, treasurer; William Gvovestein, assessor. Population, 723.

TOWN OF WELLS.

The town of Wells was set off in the fall of 1871 and the first town meeting held at the home of O. L. Arnold on the second day of April, 1872. The officers chosen at this meeting were James Wells, chairman; John Seymour and George Kind, supervisors; J. L. Wolcott, clerk; O. L. Arnold, assessor, and James Ingles,

treasurer. At this meeting it was voted to hold future town meetings at the home of Henry Baumbach, which was continued until 1890, when the present town hall was built.

Among the earlier settlers was Anton Schulte, still living; R. E. Lyons, William Thurston, Richard Dewitt, J. J. Swatzlow, James Wells, Hosea Nichols, K. W. Thurston, Ora Dewitt, Frank Tolock, John J. Smith, Simeon Wells and the Arnold brothers.

The town, being one of the late ones, was comprised in the town of Leon in its early history. When the resolution was introduced in the county board to set off this town it provided that it should be called "Charleston," but on motion of Milton Montgomery, then a member of the board, it was changed to Wells.

The present town officers are C. H. Schulte, chairman; Frank Selbach and John Baumbach, supervisors; D. M. Murphy, clerk; Mike Ebert, treasurer, and George Brooks, assessor. Population, 664.

WELLINGTON.

This town was cut off from the town of Sheldon on November 13, 1856, by resolution of the county board; its early history is comprised somewhat in that of the town of Sheldon and its records have not been available for preparing this article.

Its present officers are William Schindler, chairman; William Batzel and Dan Hutchinson, supervisors; Herman Bartz, clerk; Henry Clair, treasurer, and Frank Clair, assessor. Population, 664.

WILTON.

Wilton was created a town in October, 1854, at the same time that Sparta and Angelo were set off; its history is comprised principally with that of the early history of the village of Wilton and its records have not been made available in the preparation of this article. It has a fine farming country tributary to the village and ranks high among the towns in the dairy business.

Its present officers are Joe Lincoln, chairman; L. Koehler and William Raabe, supervisors; T. S. Kudered, clerk; Alex Gnewikow, treasurer; George Kudered, assessor, and A. H. Noth, justice. Population, 816.

At one time there existed in the county a town known as the town of Eaton, having within its limits a settlement known as the village of Eaton; this town being in the northern part of the county, was gradually split up in the making of different towns, and finally passed out of existence altogether, the last of its terri-

tory being attached to the town of Greenfield, as it is no longer in existence its history is of little importance and will not be entered into.

TOWN OF SCOTT.

This town was set off from Byron in 1880; its first settler was Andrew Scott, who came there in 1850, followed by William Dodge, who put up a saw mill. The principal settlement is at Norway Ridge, surrounding which are large cranberry marshes, which has been the principal industry of the town for many years.

Its present officers are Henry Somers, chairman; John Scott and Ernest Miers, supervisors; L. M. L. Purviance, clerk; Chris Nelson, treasurer; L. L. Cook, assessor, and W. M. Hunt and William Gray, justices. Population, 180.

CHAPTER LII.

SPARTA WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

BY ELIZABETH S. DUNN.

The mothers of Sparta caught the vibrating current from the crusade spirit emanating from Hillsboro, Ohio, in 1875, and tradition says Miss Francis E. Willard gave an address in the Methodist Episcopal Church and organized the union; Mrs. Gorman, wife of the pastor of the Baptist Church, was chosen president; Mrs. Hoyt, Mrs. Allis, Mrs. Ady, Mrs. Dr. Millegan, Mrs. Hageman Palmer, Mrs. Wolcott and Mrs. C. M. Foster were charter members, besides others whose names I have not learned. The early record was not preserved, therefore a correct history of the beginnings that perfected a firm foundation for reform work cannot be given.

We are told that the early work was conducted along the lines of the original crusade, which had its birth at Hillsboro, Ohio, December 23, 1874. These consecrated women, led by Mrs. Gorman, met in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and after a session of prayer, marched sixty strong and prayed and sang in front of the saloons.

The union entertained the state convention in the fall of 1882; the sessions were held in the old Baptist Church. Mrs. D. T. Hoyt was president, Mrs. R. S. Baldwin, Mrs. D. C. Beebe, Mrs. M. A. Wilson and Mrs. Dunlevy were among the helpers. The writer became a member at this convention.

Mrs. M. A. Wilson, Mrs. Sarah B. Dunlevy and Mrs. A. M. Pilcher served as presidents from 1883 to 1889. During Mrs. Wilson's administration a flourishing Y. W. C. T. U. was organized, with Mary Foote as president and Belle Ady as treasurer, also a Loyal Temperance Legion was mothered by the union. Howard Teasdale gave good service as superintendent, and after he resigned Mrs. Fred Richardson took up the work. This most essential part of the work was given up for want of a leader in the existing organizations for children.

Mrs. Pilcher resigned in the fall of 1889 and Mrs. Cornelia M. Foster volunteered to fill the unexpired term. In the spring of

1890 she received a unanimous call to the presidency, and for eleven years, until 1901, she was re-elected annually by the wishes and votes of all. These were years in which the society exercised large influence and enjoyed signal prosperity. In January, 1890, she inaugurated the annual thank-offering meeting, entertaining the White Ribbons at her home. At these social functions national and state officers were invited; they came, bringing messages from workers of national repute; the money received was used to carry on the work. Mrs. Foster adopted John Wesley's motto for the union's guide to activity, to "Do all the good you can, to all the people you can, in all the ways you can, and just as long as you can." Taking up the following departments of work: Evangelistic, mother's meetings, franchise, flower mission, literature, parliamentary usage, press, jail and almshouse work, scientific temperance instruction in schools, Sabbath observance, social purity, lumberman's work, narcotics, soldiers and sailors. A superintendent was appointed to take charge of each department, several of these departments of work having been adopted in the early history of the union. (The national carried on forty departments of work, each local union adopts as many as can be made useful.)

The union was a prominent factor in the campaign in 1892 and 1893 that secured no license for Sparta. Days of fasting and prayer were frequent, relying on the all wise Father for wisdom and strength to "Wage our peaceful war against evil."

In 1892 Mrs. Foster conceived the idea of having the union present a drinking fountain to the city; many devices were carried out that called for sacrifice to raise the required sum to buy the fountain; when it was secured, a committee was sent to a council meeting to present it to the city fathers, and instead of giving encouragement to our plans they refused to accept it; their excuse was it would be in the way on Water street. Their refusal was a keen disappointment to the brave women who had made the blessing to the city possible. Proving that "Where there is a will there is a way," Mrs. Foster said, "Let us buy a property and put the fountain on it." On May 27, 1892, the property on Water street was bought and the building used as a saloon was transferred into W. C. T. U. rooms and dedicated to temperance work October 9, 1892. An artesian well was drilled and the fountain put in place as it is today, and its liberal use testifies to its need.

The following winter Mrs. Foster made an agreement with her army of ninety to serve luncheons to farmers who came with their

loads to the city; we went by twos each morning to the W. C. T. U. rooms with baskets of sandwiches and doughnuts, coffee and cream, until all had been served.

Attaining towards greater possibilities in temperance work, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Wilson, Emily Garrett and Mrs. Wolcott, as leaders in the movement, conceived the idea of building a temple to take the place of the converted saloon, and as if by magic the structure materialized. The building was erected and dedicated in June 1895 to temperance reform work, to be known as the W. C. T. U. Temple of Sparta.

Mrs. Foster's ability as a leader and organizer caused the W. C. T. U. of Sparta to become one of the banner unions of the state, both in membership and methods of work. In May, 1899, the union entertained the state convention, meetings being held in the armory. As a reminder of the union's popularity at that time I quote from Dr. Crawford's address of welcome, "The present membership is about one hundred and fifty and it is a growing membership. It comprises some of the best women of the city. In this society may be found piety, cultivation, tact, social influence, business ability and practical power."

The Eau Claire Home for Unfortunate Girls appealed to the hearts of many of the union and it was given loyal support while it existed.

Mrs. Foster resigned the presidency in March, 1901, on account of failing health, and Mrs. Wilson, the vice president, acted as president until the annual election March 22, 1901, when she was advanced to the president's chair, serving until December 22, 1901, when she resigned by letter. The office was not filled until the election in March, 1902, at which Mrs. Prill was elected; she served two terms, being re-elected in 1903, and in March, 1904, Elizabeth S. Dunn was chosen to that office, which she still fills. With the passing years, noted changes have taken place, conducive to lessening the union's power for advancement and many of the true and tried have been promoted—Mrs. Mae Richardson, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Emily Garrett Foster, Mrs. Hoyt, Mrs. Sarles, Mrs. Ady and many others, besides those who have moved from us. The formation of many clubs has reduced our membership; the ministers of churches nor their wives of the later years have co-operated with us as in Dr. and Mrs. Crawford's time. But through the inevitable changes we have endeavored to maintain the principles for which this organization was called into existence, the betterment of humanity; keeping the fires of interest burning in the different departments of work. A calender con-

taining topics for each meeting is adopted each year. Frequent visits to the county almshouse and asylum are made holding a service of song. We are active in fifteen lines of work. This year the franchise department under the supervision of Miss Belle Ady, is considered the most important.

This year, 1912, marks the receiving of a legacy of $1,630 left the union by Emily Garrett Foster, who loved the W. C. T. U. Temple and made possible the perpetuation of a "woman's building," which stands as a monument to her memory. Though taken from us, she still lives in the hearts of the White Ribbon sisterhood. The present membership is between fifty and sixty; Mrs. E. S. Dunn has served as president since 1904.

We are glad we have a part in the largest organization in the world of women, waging our peaceful war (our weapons are agitation, education and converting public sentiment) against the greatest home destroyer, soul destroyer and vice creator in the world, the legalized liquor traffic, and we will not be justified in disbanding "until the last whiskey bottle comes off the medicine shelf; when the last saloon is closed; when the last church member has signed a dramshop petition; when the last boy has quit drinking beer; then the temperance people can sit down and rest, until then our work is not done in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

CHAPTER LIII.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCHES.

BY REV. OTTO ENGEL.

ST. JOHN'S, TOWN OF RIDGEVILLE.

The earliest settlers of this portion of Monroe county, formerly called "Dividing Ridge," were Lutheran peasants from Jefferson county. In 1855 Gottlieb Gnewikow, William Albrecht, Ferdinand Vincenz, Carl Fuerbringer and Henry Vieth appeared on the ground. Daniel Zellmer, Gottfried Kewitt, Michael Zielke, Daniel Raedel and Louis Matthes followed during the subsequent year. But it was not until the arrival of Mr. William Waegner in September, 1860, that efforts were made to gather the scattered Lutherans into a congregation. With indomitable energy he canvassed the neighboring country and called a meeting for the tenth of March, 1862. Fifteen persons heeded the call. Regular services were now conducted under the leadership of Mr. Waegner, who read from Hofacker's sermon book. April 1, 1862, a permanent organization was established. A congregational constitution was at once adopted for the government of the infant society, which was subscribed by twenty-five men, heads of families, as uniting in the organization of this church. Their names were William Waegner, Christian Richert, Frederic Gnewikow, Daniel Zellmer, Christoph Eckelberg, John Bartels, Daniel Raedel, Meinhardt Gnewikow, Ludwig Kuthlow, Christoph Hoffman, Christian Libke, William Albrecht, August Koellner, Gottfried Kewitt, Frederic Eckelberg, Christian Helmke, Asmus Holz, David Kortbein, Christian Mueller, Carl Mueller, Joachim Metelmann, John Schultz, Gottlieb Kuehl, Herman Horstmann, Christian Marten. The following were chosen as the first officers: William Waegner, Frederic Gnewikow, Christian Richert, John Bartels and Daniel Zellmer. At the same time the congregation was incorporated under the incorporate title, "The Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church." After due deliberation a communication was sent to Senior J. Muehlhaeuser, founder and first president of the Wisconsin Synod, applying for a pastor. As a

consequence, Rev. Michael Ewert, the nearest Lutheran pastor, having his home at Burr Oak, was instructed to provide this faithful band with the means of grace. He was received with great joy when he preached the first Lutheran sermon in Monroe county on the fifteenth of May, 1862, at the district school house No. 1, in the present town of Ridgeville. He promised to preach at least once in eight weeks, receiving for every round trip of sixty miles $8.00 in cash. The Lord's Supper was administered for the first time on the eighteenth of May to thirty-four communicants. During his time a suitable place of worship was erected, a log house, 20 by 32 feet. In June, 1862, after the congregation had previously been admitted to the Wisconsin Synod, the new church was dedicated with solemn ceremony, the Rev. F. W. Hass from Mormon Cooley assisting.

Rev. Michael Ewert, the first minister who preached the word to the oldest Lutheran settlement in Monroe county, was born at Radschief, Province of Posen, Germany, February 18, 1812. After receiving his preliminary education in the parochial schools of his native village, he entered the Teachers' Institute at Bromberg. In 1856 he crossed the ocean and came to Wisconsin, where he was called upon to preach to the pastorless people of Golden Lake, Waukesha county, connecting himself with the Frankean Synod. By recommendation of Pastor Muehlhaeuser, he was ordained for the gospel ministry in October, 1861, therewith becoming a member of the Wisconsin Synod. In the same year he accepted a vocation to the "Memminger Church" at Burr Oak, resigning his pastorate at Cedar Creek and Richfield, Waukesha county, shortly after Christmas. He died January 10, 1888, and is buried in the cemetery at Ox Bow, Jackson county.

Through the instrumentality of Dr. Ed. Moldehnke, who had previously, in June, 1863, preached at Ridgeville while on his missionary expeditions, the Rev. John A. Hoyer was commissioned to become the first resident Lutheran minister in Monroe county. He arrived August 25, 1865, and delivered his first sermon on the following Sunday. His ordination was performed by W. Dammann, of Milwaukee, on the nineteenth Sunday after Trinity. A parsonage was built for him in the spring of the following year. Rev. Hoyer labored with great zeal, preaching not only at Ridgeville, but also at Clifton, where he had organized a congregation during the first year of his ministry, until he received and accepted a call to Eldorado, Wis., October 27, 1867.

During the ensuing interim of seven months Mr. Waegner conducted services. May 20, 1868, the Rev. Ludwig Ebert was unani-

mously called from Portland, Houston county, Minnesota, where he had rendered service to a number of German Lutheran congregations. He founded a church at South Ridge and erected a house of worship at Clifton, whereupon he departed from Ridgeville April 9, 1871, in order to return to the fatherland, accepting a position as teacher in a gymnasium.

April 10, 1871, the Rev. Albert F. Siegler, a native of Wollin, Pomerania, Germany, and first student under Dr. Moldehnke in the College at Watertown, Wis., was invited to take charge of the church. He accepted the invitation, and entered upon his work April 26, 1871, preaching his first sermon from the Gospel of the Good Shepherd. His installation followed on Pentecost Monday, May 29, Rev. C. G. Reim, La Crosse, Wis., officiating. During his pastorate the congregation grew too large to be accommodated in the old log church, and consequently it was decided to erect the second house of worship, a frame building, 54 by 32, spire 75 feet, with altar niche and sancristy, at a cost of $3,000. Mr. H. L. Scherr and E. Brauer were the contractors. In February, 1874, the completed building was set apart to the worship of God, the pastor loci conducting the official ceremony. A church strife, into which the congregation was precipitated by the Reformed members, while the building was in progress, ended in the withdrawal of thirteen families and the formation of Salem's Church, October 17, 1873, which became extinct in 1890. Rev. Siegler's career of this and fourteen other congregations and preaching places came to a close when he was called to Ixonia, Wis., July 17, 1877.

July 24, 1877, the Rev. Erdman A. Pankow, whose father immigrated to Lebanon, Dodge county, with the so-called old Lutherans of Pomerania and Brandenburg in 1843, was called to the pastorate. He accepted and commenced his labors October 14, being installed by Rev. C. G. Reim of La Crosse, Wis. This reverend gentleman held the office of pastor of St. John's at Ridgeville, St. Paul's at Tomah and St. Jacob's at Norwalk four years, when he was obliged to give notice to this congregation that on account of ill health he would have to sever his connection with this pastorate September 18, 1881.

When Rev. Pankow removed to St. Louis, Mo., the services of Pastor Andrew Schroedel was procured September 18, 1881. After due deliberation he commenced his labors in December, when he was formally installed by Rev. J. Badke of Dorset Ridge. Shortly after his arrival the first bells were hung in the steeple. The first mission festival was celebrated September 20, 1885. At

a congregational meeting held June 2, 1889, it was resolved to erect a new parsonage on a recently purchased lot, whereupon William Zellmer, Fred Gnewikow and Henry Schlinz were appointed a building committee to carry out the design of the congregation. Accordingly, November 25, 1889, a contract was entered into with Charles Prehn of Portage, Wis., for the erection of a frame building, for the sum of $1,050. But before the completion of the parsonage, October 28, the Rev. Schroedel asked for an honorary dismissal, having received a call to Watertown as professor. This was granted November 25, 1889.

December 29, 1889, the Rev. Christian F. C. Koehler from East Farmington, Polk county, Wisconsin, was chosen to fill the pulpit. He entered upon the duties of his office on the twenty-second of February, 1890, being installed by Professor Schroedel. Upon his instigation a special meeting was called on March 7, 1892, for the purpose of devising plans for a new school house, 22 by 36. On March 13 the congregation took title to a plot of ground comprising two acres, purchasing the same from Martin Achtenberg, for a consideration of $275. William Matthes was given the contract and finished the work in November. Rev. Koehler's ministry lasted until June 4, 1899, when he was compelled to resign, being stricken with a hemorrhage. He removed to White Bear, Minn., and soon after died, October 11, 1900.

Rev. George Washington Albrecht was the next pastor. He entered upon his clerical duties July 26, 1899, and was introduced to his congregation the following Sunday by Prof. Jul. Gamm. The membership soon became too great to accommodate the crowds. A larger building became imperative. It was, therefore, decided to erect a brick structure, 45 by 65, altar niche 16 by 20, tower 110 feet high. Plans sketched by Schick and Harrison of LaCrosse, Wis., were approved, and the contract let to Ernest Daherr, of Tomah, Wis., May 14, 1900, the excavation was begun with. The corner stone was laid with impressive services on hte twenty-second of July, the Rev. Prof. A. F. Ernest of Watertown, Wis., preaching from Romans 8:31-32 and I Corinthians 3:11-12. The new church was formally dedicated to Almighty God on January 20, 1901, the Rev. Phil von Rohr, president of synod; Rev. J. Gamm, professor at Watertown, Wis., and Rev. A. F. Siegler, pastor at Wauwatosa, Wis., conducting the services of consecration. The Rev. Albrecht continued in faithful service in the congregation until December 1, 1907, when he received permission to move to Osceola, Wis. He died May 14, 1910.

February 1, 1908, Rev. Ewald Herrmanns' faithful and

unhappy pastorate of two years began. He came to this charge from the Deerfield and Newville congregations, near Waterloo, Wis., where he had labored since 1904. His resignation was accepted March 7, 1910, whereupon he removed to Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

The present incumbent is the Rev. August C. Stock, who has labored with diligence and acceptability since June 19, 1910. During his ministry a pipe organ was purchased for $2,000. The golden jubilee of the congregation was celebrated June 2, 1912, the Revs. E. A. Pankow, A. F. Siegler, O. Kulow and Prof. J. Schaller delivering sermons. Extensive rebuilding and beautifying of the parsonage have taken place lately at a cost of about $1,600.

The membership of the church is represented by one hundred and thirty-six families. The present officers are Fred Gnewikow, president; William Lange, secretary; Aug. Kewitt, treasurer; William Sommerfeld, F. Fuchs, Aug. Martin, elders. The property owned by the congregation is estimated at $20,000. In connection with the church is a congregational school with about forty-five in attendance. A Ladies' Aid Society is in flourishing condition. A very able church choir is under the direction of the present pastor. The "Gemeinde-Blatt" is read by thirty-two members. Rev. Leo Kirst and Rev. Arnold Schulz have entered the gospel ministry from this congregation.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF TOMAH.

By Rev. J. G. Glaeser.

As near as can be ascertained at present writing, the first regular sermon was preached in Tomah by the Rev. A. F. Siegler, the resident Lutheran minister of St. John's Church of the town of Ridgeville, Monroe county, Wisconsin, on Monday following Easter Sunday, in the year 1872. The services were held in the home of William Fieting. Christians of Lutheran faith residing in Tomah and vicinity had prior to the date given occasionally assembled in private homes, having one from their midst to read a sermon. As shown by the early records, once before the mentioned date the Rev. Ebert of Ridgeville delivered a sermon in Tomah at a special occasion. Regular services were inaugurated by the said Rev. A. F. Siegler in 1872. Services were held every four weeks in the private homes of Lutherans in Tomah. In those days the homes of the people were mostly small. Much inconvenience was soon experienced to accommodate the worshippers.

So the thought to provide for a more suitable place to assemble, if such could be had, became dominant. In the fall of 1873 an agreement was made by the Lutherans of Tomah with the Congregational Church Society of said village by which the Lutherans should have the use of their church every fourth Sunday in the afternoon. Misunderstandings over prosperity urgently demanded to organize as a church body and seek an own church home at an early date. At a congregational meeting July 26, 1874, articles of incorporation were drafted, agreed to and the same received and filed by the register at the court house in Sparta on August 18, 1874. The society is known under the incorporate name, German Evangelical Lutheran, St. Paul's Church of Tomah, Wis. The constitution of the society sets forth that the Holy Scriptures shall be source, norm and rule of doctrine and Christian life, that the Book of Concord, the volume containing the General and the Lutheran confessions of faith, shall be the true manifestation of faith as the same is propagated by this church. Aside from the doctrine question, the object of organizing, the aims, the work of the organization, the requisites of membership, etc., are defined. The names of the charter members, seventeen in number, may find place in the history of the church, to wit: E. Daher, William Fieting, Aug. Scholz, Carl Kupper, Louis Schulz, Fred Helmke, L. Frieske, Fr. Maas, Dav. Martin, Ad. Koehn, Fred Schmidt, Fr. Duwe, Fr. Lueck, Alb. Bongers, Jul. Lueck, Ferd. Krueger and Rud. Roscovius. The statistics on the day of organization give seventeen voting members, forty-four communicant members, ninety-three souls.

Immediately after organizing Karl Grutke was taken in as voting member, making eighteen in all, and the first board of trustees was elected, a body of three in the early days of the church, which has been changed later to six. The first board of trustees were Karl Grutke, David Martin and Lud. Frieske. The financial powers of the members of St. Paul's Church was very limited in the early days of its existence, but the trust in God gave the small congregation courage to vote to purchase suitable ground for a church building. Two lots on North Superior avenue, 50 by 150 each, were purchased. Consideration, $180.00. At a meeting September 26, 1875, the congregation decided to erect a church edifice on their lots. The building to be 24 x 36 x 12, of frame construction. The construction work was at once taken up and the first church building of the congregation was soon completed. On December 26, 1875, the new church was dedicated. The entire cost of same was $600. The building is to this day

occupied by the congregation, it being a part of its parochial school building.

St. Paul's Lutheran congregation of Tomah has always known the duty of Christian congregations toward the rising generations in their midst and has made provisions for Christian training of the children of its members, as circumstances demanded. In the early days of the congregation, when the members were few and poor at that, they could not see their way clear to provide a regular day school, so they did the next best thing, giving the children a Sunday school. But a Sunday school could not suffice, where the young should learn to know the Savior well and where god-fearing men and women should be trained, who could serve God, country and fellowman aright. So the congregation decided at a meeting December 26, 1877, to furnish a winter term of four months' daily schooling to the children of the church members. Mr. E. Daher was engaged to teach the four months' term of 1877-1878. Re-engaged the succeeding terms to 1881. October 9, 1881, the congregation voted to call its first regular teacher and organize a full day school of nine and one-half to ten months a year. Mr. Kahlfass was called at the meeting above stated. He accepted the call and taught for one and one-half years. A school board was elected February 5, 1882, by the congregation. The members of the first school board were William Fieting, Ernst Daher and Fr. Helmke.

The parochial school had come to stay. The first teacher, on his resignation, was succeeded by Messrs. Jul. Bittner and Ad. Stolz. Thus the things were done by the congregation to rear the young in the admonition unto the Lord, as circumstances and ability of the church of Tomah could possibly afford.

One live question of the congregation yet was unsolved, the provision of an own resident minister. True, the pastor of St. John's Church of Ridgeville, the Rev. A. F. Siegler, and his successors, the Revs. E. Pankow and A. Schroedel, did all their time and ability permitted to provide for the spiritual wants of the Tomah Lutheran Church. The growing congregation in Tomah demanded its own resident minister.

At the congregational meeting April 6, 1884, it was voted to call a minister. Mr. John Jenny was elected to fill the pulpit of St. Paul in Tomah. Mr. Jenny, at present pastor of St. James' Lutheran Church of Milwaukee; is a graduate of Northwestern College of Watertown, Wis., graduating from the Lutheran Seminary of Milwaukee in June, 1884. The Rev. Jenny accepted the

call to Tomah in 1884 and was installed pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Tomah in the fall of the year given.

Pastorate of the Rev. J. Jenny, 1884-1892.

The congregation now had its own resident minister. The next step to be taken was to provide a parsonage for the congregation. After considering several locations for same it was decided, January 30, 1886, to accept an offer of the lot, 50 x 150, adjoining the church property on the south, with a small cottage thereon, consideration being $900. The Rev. Jenny had taken unto himself the ministerial work as well as the school work, the congregation being too weak then to support a minister and a teacher. But soon the Lutheran congregation of Sparta petitioned the Tomah congregation to permit their pastor to fill the pulpit of their small church also. The petition was granted December 26, 1887, and the Rev. J. Jenny became pastor of the circuit—Tomah, Sparta and town of Lincoln, Zeeda and Goodyear. The ministerial work thus plentiful left no, or not sufficient, time to the minister to properly care for the school. So a parochial teacher was again called by the congregation. Mr. Phil Gruetzmacher took charge.

The congregation had grown to number fifty-nine voting members January 1, 1889. A larger church edifice became a pressing need. At a meeting August 25, 1889, the congregation voted to build a new church, which church building, by a decision arrived at in special meeting December 1, 1889, should afford a seating capacity of 350 and be of frame with brick veneer construction. The contract of erection was awarded to E. A. Daher of Tomah for $3,585 on February 15, 1890. On June 8, the basement complete, the corner stone was laid. Prof. E. Notz of the Lutheran Seminary of Milwaukee assisting the pastor in the act, preached the sermon. On the twelfth day of October, 1890, the church was dedicated. The Revs. H. Vogel, F. Stromer and C. Gansewitz doing service to an elated congregation by speaking words to the honor of God, who had made willing hearts and open hands to erect a structure of the kind. The pastor read the dedicatory prayer. The dimensions of the church edifice, stately then, were 38 x 56 x 16, with tower 104 feet and altar niche and sancristy. The total costs were $4,493.92.

At a special meeting September 19, 1892, the pastor was given an honorable dismissal from his duties in order to accept a call to Duluth, Minn.

PASTORATE OF THE REV. G. E. BERGEMANN, NOVEMBER 1, 1892—NOVEMBER 30, 1899.

Rev. G. E. Bergemann, of Bay City, Mich., was called to fill the pulpit of St. Paul's Lutheran church, of Tomah, vacated by Rev. J. Jenny. Rev. Bergemann accepted the call and took charge of his work in Tomah November 1, 1892. The Rev. Bergemann is at present pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran church, of Fond du Lac, Wis. He holds the office of president of the Evangelical Lutheran synods of Wisconsin. A. O. States is ex-officio member of various boards of said synod. The Rev. Bergemann is a graduate of Northwestern college, of Watertown, '85, graduating from Lutheran seminary in June, 1887.

In the parochial school of Tomah congregation Mr. Gruetzmacher having resigned as teacher Mr. Brann succeeded him in November, 1892. Mr. Otto Borchert took charge of the school in the spring of '93, resigning his position in January, 1899. Mr. Chas. F. Brenner was given the school the same year.

In 1896 the parsonage was altered—enlarged at an expense of $700.00. During Rev. Bergemann's pastorate the church's indebtedness was reduced to $500.00. In the year 1899 the congregation celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its existence, commemorating the day by placing a new pipe organ in their church at a cost of $785.00. August 20 was the day designated to mark the twenty-fifth mile-stone. Services were held in the forenoon, afternoon and evening, the speakers being the Revs. J. Jenny and G. E. Bergemann. Church census figures on the day were given out, 126 voting members, 437 communicant members—682 souls. The Rev. G. E. Bergemann soon thereafter accepted a call to St. Peter's Lutheran church, of Fond du Lac, leaving his Tomah charge the first days in December, 1899.

PASTORATE OF THE REV. J. G. GLAESER, FROM JANUARY 11, 1900, TO PRESENT DATE.

The Rev. J. G. Glaeser, of Naugart, Marathon county, Wisconsin, was called as pastor by St. Paul's Lutheran church, of Tomah, to succeed the Rev. G. E. Bergemann. Rev. Glaeser, a graduate of the Lutheran seminary in December, 1887, ordained a minister of the gospel in town of Paris, Kenosha county, Wisconsin, December 26, 1887, accepted the call tendered, arriving in Tomah, January 11, 1900, taking charge of the work of his new field at once. The congregation had voted December 31, 1899, to wipe out the entire indebtedness of the society the coming

year. It was accomplished. In the general meeting of December 27, 1900, the congregation decided to purchase a peal of two bells from Menerly Bell Foundry for $740.00. The money was raised within ten days by subscription by the members. The location of the school house along side the alley back of the church was unsatisfactory from every point of view. So the congregation elected a committee to find a suitable location for their school. Of the several locations offered the congregation decided to purchase the lot, 50x150, north of the church property, owned by Mrs. A. Utecht, for $1,500.00. The dwelling on same was sold by the church for $500.00. It was planned to move the school building on the lot, to add a new part, 12x26, same height and form of architecture to building, and put a high basement under entire building (26x52) for class room purposes. The plan was realized and improvements made as planned, costing closely to $3,000.00, of which sum one-half was paid at once, the balance the year following. The teacher resigned in June, 1902. The school year 1902-1903 was filled by Theo. Kudert, a student of New Ulm Seminary for Teachers. In September, 1903, Teacher Emil Reim took charge of the congregation's parochial school. The school had by a vote of the members taken July 12, 1903, been made an institution of two class rooms. Mr. Reim was chosen as principal and teacher of the I room, and Miss Ella Birr taught the lower grades from 1903-1906, Miss Anna Wolff, 1906-1911. In September, 1911, Miss Frances Glaeser took charge of room II of the school. Mr. Alex. Jaeger succeeded Mr. Reim, who vacated his position in June, 1908, accepting a call as principal to Hustisford, Wis. On January 1, 1912, the school register showed ninety-three scholars; fifty-one were in the first room, with Alex. Jaeger as teacher; forty-two in the lower grades, with Frances Glaeser as teacher.

The church membership had grown so that the building could no longer house the congregation. The question: What can be done to furnish more room for assemblies on the days of public worship? became pressing. It was decided to have the architect firm of Schick & Roth look into the cost of remodeling and enlarging the church edifice if possible. Mr. Schick, looking over the ground, building, and inquiring how the congregation thought to accomplish an enlargement of their church, gave as his opinion that an addition suitably large could well be built. Sketches were drawn by the architects setting forth the inner and outward appearance of the remodeled building. August 16, 1908, it was voted by the congregation to call upon Schick &

Roth, architects, to draw plans and specifications as sketches had shown. The plans drawn called for an addition 36x50, with sacristy and altar-niche of solid brick construction. The basement under addition to afford room for an assembly hall, furnace room and spacious closets. The old part to receive elevation of ceiling, new plaster and stucco work, etc. January 26, 1909, the bids for material and work of erection were opened and awarded to Mr. Peter Nelson, contractor and builder, of LaCrosse. The bid was $8,575.00. With the opening of spring work was commenced, and no accident or misunderstanding of the parties concerned marring the progress of work, the building was completed October 10, 1909. On that day the church was dedicated in proper manner. The former pastors, J. Jenny and G. E. Bergemann, were come to rejoice in the Lord with the congregation and preach the Word. The two young men in the ministry of the Lutheran church gone forth from the Tomah congregation, the Revs. Arnold Schulz and Leo Kirst, were present and spoke the Word of Truth to their home church members. The cost of the addition, remodelling of old part, new furniture, electric fixtures and heating plant amounted to $14,000.00, of which sum $11,000.00 was paid in by the members and friends on completion of improvements stated. In February, 1909, the congregation purchased the lot north of their property of Mrs. Crabb for $1,800.00. The same year, 1909, the city of Tomah put in brick pavement on Superior avenue, causing St. Paul's Lutheran congregation an expense of $700.00 as its part of payment.

The church's property, located on Superior avenue, the beauty street of the city of Tomah, comprises five lots, each 50x150, a half block excepting the southeast corner lot. On the lots are to be found a two-room school house, the spacious church edifice having a seating capacity of 650, and a good-sized parsonage. January 1, 1912, the following figures were given: 196 voting members, 623 communicant members, 1,035 souls.

ST. JOHN'S, SPARTA.

About thirty-seven years ago a few German Lutherans drove to the town of Ridgeville for the purpose of listening to a Lutheran sermon and partaking of the Lord's Supper according to the institution of the Lutheran church. The pastor at Ridgeville was at that time the Rev. A. F. Siegler. He kindly invited them to his house and inquired about the religious outlook in Sparta. He subsequently

came to Sparta at his earliest convenience, collected the scattered Lutherans, preached to them, and administered the sacraments. Divine services were held in private houses at irregular intervals for many years, until the Rev. Siegler asked the Sparta Lutherans to look for the service of some other pastor who could supply them oftener.

The next minister who was called upon to preach the Lord Jesus Christ and administer the sacraments was Rev. Henry C. Dagefoerde, the first laborer commissioned to America by Pastor Ludwig Harms, founder and soul of the Hermannsburg Foreign Missionary Society. He was stationed at Barre Mills, LaCrosse county, and preached the gospel to this people until he accepted a pastorate in Bloomfield, Wis., in the fall of 1877.

After the resignation of Rev. Dagefoerde the Rev. Louis E. Junker, pastor of Christ Lutheran church, at Burr Oak, promised to preach the word every third Sunday. During his circumspective pastorship, in 1880, Sparta Lutherans organized themselves into a congregation, calling themselves "St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church." The following persons constituted the organization: August Schlaver, Sr., August Niemasch, Peter Boelke, Michael Lueck, Julius Dellmann, Godfrey Gantke, Julius Meseur, August Jahnke, Julius Pollack. Of these Peter Boelke, Michael Lueck, Julius Pollock and August Jahnke are still members of the church. Immediately after the organization steps were taken to erect a house of worship on a parcel of land located on Main street. This frame building served the congregation for twenty-two years until it was supplanted by a more substantial structure.

After the removal of Rev. Junker the charge was entrusted to the care of Rev. Phillip Sprengling, a graduate from the Theological seminary in Milwaukee. He was ordained for the ministry in May, 1882, at Burr Oak, the Rev. P. Lange officiating. After five years of untiring and conscientious discharge of duty he was called to Hika, town of Centerville, Manitowoc county, where he is still laboring with marked success.

When this charge was vacated by the resignation of Rev. Sprengling the Lutherans of Sparta thought it more expedient to unite with the congregation at Tomah. In 1887 the Rev. John Jenny, whose parents were members of the Swiss colony coming to New Glarus, Green county, Wisconsin, in 1845, entered the field.

Rev. Jenny was succeeded by the Rev. G. E. Bergemann, who received his theological training from Prof. Dr. Adhoenecke, the

foremost instructor of dogmatics in America. He severed his connection with this congregation when he accepted a more prominent pastorate at Fond du Lac, Wis., serving the Wisconsin synod as vice-president since 1907 and as president since 1909.

The subsequent herald of the cross was Rev. John G. Glaeser, visitor of the Southwestern district of the Mississippi conference. He came from St. Paul's church in the town of Berlin, Marathon county, and was installed at Tomah on January 11, 1900.

At the suggestion of Rev. Glaeser Mr. H. W. Schmeling was called to be pastor of the German Lutheran flock at Sparta. He was ordained to the office of the ministry July 7, 1901. The necessity for a more spacious place of worship soon became more and more apparent. In January, 1902, active measures were taken for a new church edifice. A lot was procured on Jefferson avenue and L street. Mr. Parkinon furnished plans and specifications. The contract was let to Ernest Schmalz and Gustav Friske. Work on the projected church, 84x40x20, spire 109 feet, was commenced early in spring and the corner stone was laid with becoming ceremonies May 4, 1902. On this occasion a sermon was preached by Rev. Rich. Siegler, of Barre Mills. November 9, 1902, dedication was held. Rev. G. E. Bergemann, Fond du Lac, Wis., proclaimed the gospel in the forenoon, Rev. J. G. Glaeser, Tomah, Wis., conducted the afternoon's service, and Rev. J. Jenny, Milwaukee, Wis., delivered an English address in the evening. In 1905 the congregation celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its organization by arranging special services for the 3rd of September, the Revs. F. A. Siegler and P. Schroeder officiating. A bell weighing 1,302 pounds was bought from the famous Meneely Company, Troy, N. Y., and installed on the same occasion. A commodious and convenient parsonage was purchased in 1907. Following the custom of the Lutheran church, a parochial school was established in 1903, the pastor, Rev. Schmeling, conducting the same for five years. In 1908 Miss Edith Steinke was employed. Miss Ella Lorenz will take her place in September, 1912. The average attendance has been from forty to fifty pupils.

The present congregation consists of 94 families, 350 communicants, and 490 souls. The present officers of the church are: Pastor, Rev. H. W. Schmeling; president, Michael Lueck; secretary, Henry Hoppmann; treasurer, Hugo Protz; school director, Louis Luebcke; teacher, Ella Lorenz; organist, Amelia Jahnke.

The whole value of the church puroperty approximates $1,600. Regular English preaching is given once a month.

ST. JACOB'S, NORWALK.

St. Jacob's is an outgrowth of St. John's, at Ridgeville, the mother church of eight congregations in Monroe county. In 1875 some of its members living in the vcinity of Norwalk were inclined to think that the time had approached to hold services in a somewhat closer proximity to their homes. Accordingly they asked the Rev. A. F. Siegler, pastor at Ridgeville since 1871, to hold religious services in the village of Norwalk. Soon afterwards Rev. Siegler came here and began to labor with intentions to establish a preaching post. The first meetings were conducted in the old school house and at Roof's hall. Rev. Siegler remained with this society two years.

He was succeeded on his departure by the Rev. Erdman A. Pankow, at one time professor of ancient languages in Concordia college, Concordia, Mo. During his time the congregation worshiped fortnightly in a wagon shop. September 18, 1881, the Rev. Pankow, by reason of continued ill health, was compelled to tender his resignation, much to the regret of his parishioners.

The third incumbent was the Rev. Andrew Schroedel, late president of the Minnesota synod, who was called immediately after his predecessor's resignation, assuming his position in December, 1881. Under his skillful guidance, January 30, 1882, the permanent organization of the society was effected with nine members. The names of those who participated were: Jacob Schuele, Gustav Prechel, William Schedler, Christian Drawer, Julius Mittelstaedt, John Arndt, William Schulz, J. Gurske. At the same time they were incorporated under the prevailing laws of the state, naming themselves "Evangelical Lutheran St. Jacob's Church." The first trustees were: President, William Schedler; secretary, Gottlieb Jahnke; treasurer, Jacob Schuele. A congregational constitution was adopted and signed by the voting members. February 12, 1881, the first church house, 24x36, for which provisions had been made during Rev. Pankow's term, was completed and fitly dedicated, the local pastor performing the dedicatory act, and the Rev. J. Badke, from Dorset Ridge, assisting. The Lutherans of Norwalk may, therefore, justly ascribe to themselves the honor of erecting the first house of worship in the village. Rev. Schroedel supplied this church until October, 1889, when he accepted a professorship in the Northwestern University, Watertown, Wis.

The next pastor, serving with great earnestness from 1890-1899, was the Rev. Christian F. C. Koehler, who previously had been serving congregations at East Farmington and Osceola, Wis. The first confirmation took place during his ministry on April 5, 1891. In June, 1891, this congregation was received as an integral part of the Wisconsin synod, the only German Lutheran church body represented in Monroe county. Mr. John Koeninger was the first delegate to synod convened at St. John's Lutheran church, Milwaukee, June 18-25, 1891. A Sunday school was established and placed under the management of Mr. Jacob Schuele and Mrs. J. Koeninger. The Rev. Koehler continued to perform his duty in the midst of this congregation until he was forced to resign on account of a severe abdominal disease. He occupied the pulpit for the last time at Burr Oak, on the occasion of a mission festival, his death taking place four days later, October 11, 1900, at the parsonage of Rev. Phil von Rohr, Winona, Minn.

After Prof. John P. Koehler, instructor of church history and new testament exegesis in the theological seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Wisconsin Synod in Milwaukee, had acted as supply for nearly a whole year, the Rev. George Washington Albrecht was appointed to the charge, his installation occurring on the 30th of July, 1891. He officiated in that capacity until it was decided by the congregation to become an independent charge, October 21, 1906.

December 3, 1906, Pastor E. Mayerhoff, who resides at Wonewoc, Wis., since his retirement from active work on account of infirmities of age, was called as vicar. He labored with this people until the Rev. Otto Engel, the present incumbent, was extended a call.

The Rev. Engel, a graduate of Concordia college and the seminary in Milwaukee, accepted the call after mature deliberation, and was ordained to the office of the ministry by Rev. Mayerhoff, August 18, 1907, thus becoming the first resident minister of any denomination at Norwalk. Shortly after his arrival an excellent parsonage was erected at a cost of about $2,000. A full parochial school was opened in the fall of the same year, the pastor acting as teacher four years. The congregation having grown in the meantime, in the fall of 1909 it was decided to build a new house of worship. The building committee consisted of Eduard Bergmann, Robert Graewin and Rudolf Martin. Plans and specifications were furnished by Schick & Roth, LaCrosse architects. The contract was let to J. A. Heilmann on the 15th

of February, 1910, for $6,280. Five thousand and twenty-six dollars were raised by the pastor to carry on the work. The corner stone was laid May 29, 1910. The services were participated in by Rev. J. G. Glaeser, Tomah, Wis., and Rev. C. W. Siegler, Bangor, Wis. The new church was completed in October. It is a fine brick structure, 34x60, beautiful and churchly in all appointments, calculated to comfortably seat 250 persons. The dedication services were held October 23, Prof. J. P. Koehler, Milwaukee, Wis.; Rev. E. A. Pankow, Caledonia, Minn., and Rev. A. C. Stock, Ridgeville, Wis., preaching dedicatory sermons. In the construction of the new church an expenditure of about $10,000 was made. The motto had been: Everything new for the new church.

The congregation is composed of forty-five voting and eleven contributing members. The present officers of the society are: President, Robert Graewin; secretary, Gustav Janke; treasurer, Carl Hanisch; elder, Soren Kastberg. A Sunday school is ably conducted by Mrs. Emma Hornung and Marie Koepcke, having an attendance of twenty-two scholars. Connected with the church there is a Ladies' Aid Society, consisting of twenty-five active members. The church property is estimated at $15,000. About twenty-six copies of the Gemeinde-Blatt and three copies of the Lutheran Witness are taken by the congregation. The salary paid to the pastor at present is $400. The congregation possesses its own cemetery. Norwalk Lutherans have one of the most beautiful, substantial and commodious church buildings in Monroe county. The basement of the church is utilized for school purposes.

ST. MATTHEW'S, TOWN OF LINCOLN.

The Lutheran families in the town of Lincoln were visited by the Revs. A. F. Siegler, E. A. Pankow, A. Schroedel, pastors of St. John's in the town of Ridgeville, at irregular intervals, public services being conducted in private residences. This was prior to 1880.

When the Rev. J. Jenny, formerly stationed at Iron Creek, near Menomonie, Wis., became the first resident Lutheran minister of Tomah, September 28, 1884, he was called upon to take charge of the mission in the town of Lincoln. Regular services were now held every three or four weeks in the school house on the Black River road, one and one-half miles north from Kirby.

On November 6, 1892, after Rev. Jenny had been appointed missionary of the mining district near Duluth, Minn., the Rev.

G. E. Bergemann, since 1887 pastor of Trinity church at South Bay City, Mich., assumed full charge of his clerical duties at Tomah and town of Lincoln. December 16, 1894, a meeting was held by the members of the mission in the aforementioned school house immediately after service for the purpose of organizing a congregation. A constitution stating name, object and doctrinal position of the society was drafted and signed by the voting members present, December 26, 1894. The organization was completed by electing the following officers: President, Rev. G. E. Bergemann; secretary, Wm. Hoffmann; treasurer, Wm. Kemp. The name "Evangelical Lutheran St. Matthew's Church of the Town of Lincoln, Monroe County, Wisconsin," was unanimously selected.

A call to St. Peter's Lutheran church at Fond du Lac, Wis., ended the labors of Rev. Bergemann for this people, December, 1899, and the Rev. J. G. Glaeser was called from Naugart, Wis., entering upon his work January 14, 1900. Soon after his arrival a meeting was called to consider the question of building a church edifice. The congregation voted to purchase an acre of land from Henry Severloh, Sr., located on Black river road, only a few rods distant from the school house which had served the congregation for many years. It was decided to erect a building 26x40 feet, frame, with brick veneer, tower 52 feet high. The contract was awarded to E. A. Daher, of Tomah, early in the spring. In May the corner stone of the proposed building was laid with customary ceremonies, the local pastor delivering an appropriate and impressive address. July 1, 1900, the new church was dedicated to the worship of the Triune God, the former pastors, Rev. J. Jenny and G. E. Bergemann, upon special invitation by the congregation, conducting the dedication services. The total cost was $1,600, there being nineteen members to contribute towards the elimination of the church debt which remained after the completion of the building. April 4, 1907, the congregation incorporated under the laws governing religious societies, the papers being filed at the Courthouse in Sparta, Col. 8, No. 223-224. The first board of trustees of six members were: Aug. Kemp, Fred Gehrke, Wm. Schroeder, Frank Hoffman, Herman Gehrke and Wm. Kastens. In 1911 the congregation had the interior of the church covered with tasteful metal ceiling, at a cost of $225.

The membership is twenty-six voting, four contributing and about ninety communicant members. The present church officers are: Pastor, J. G. Glaeser; trustees, John Zahrte, August

Kemp, August Birkholz; elders, Wm. Kastens, Herman Gehrke, Wm. Zimmermann.

FRIEDEN'S CHURCH, TOWN OF LITTLE FALLS.

The first minister of the gospel who administered the means of grace among the Lutheran families in the town of Little Falls, fourteen miles north of Sparta, was the Rev. Louis E. Junker, a self-sacrificing and devout Christian. He came from Burr Oak valley sixteen miles, where he had been located since 1878, and preached at irregular intervals in private residences and school houses. In the spring of 1882 Rev. Junker left this congregation and went as pastor to Eitzen, Minn., closing his earthly pilgrimage December 5, 1910.

After the removal of Rev. Junker the administration of the sacraments ceased until, through the instrumentality of Mr. John Loesch, a staunch Lutheran who had served Rev. Junker as driver, the Rev. J. J. Meyer, an unpretending laborer in the Lord's vineyard, was called upon to look after the spiritual welfare of this people. Rev. Meyer resided at Burr Oak, and commenced to preach the Word every fourth week in 1890, conducting divine worship with six families in district school house No. 6, the use of which was kindly and gratuitously granted to them by the school board, an offer which was accepted with gratitude. When the little flock was strengthened by the addition of a few families coming from Irish Valley and Pine Hill, an organization was effected with sixteen male members in 1896. In the following year it was desired to erect a house of worship. Messrs. H. Parlow, Wm. Jahnke and Frank Zillmer were appointed as a building committee. The new frame church, 32x42, tower 50 feet, was appropriately dedicated October 24, 1897, the Rev. Meyer preaching. From 1882-1888 this preaching station was supplied with the Word of God by Rev. Phillip Sprengling, a graduate from the seminary at Milwaukee, who sat at the feet of Dr. A. L. Graebner, a recognized authority on the history of the Lutheran church in America.

He was succeeded by Rev. William Parisius, who was installed as pastor of Christ's church at Burr Oak, and of Frieden's church on the 16th of September, 1900, by the Rev. R. Siegler. But since the work at Burr Oak so occupied the time of Rev. Parisius that he could not look after the interests of this congregation as well as he would like to, he asked them to call upon some other neighboring minister.

By his recommendation, in the summer of 1902, the service of

Rev. H. W. Schmeling, of Sparta, was secured. He preaches every alternate Sunday in the afternoon, conducting an English service immediately after the German every month.

The present congregation consists of 45 families, 160 communicants and 240 souls. The church officers are: President, August Brandt; secretary, Albert Wegner; treasurer, John Hanke. The Sunday school has a comparatively large enrollment. Summer school is held every year during July and August, religion and German reading and writing being the principal branches. The pastor resides at Sparta.

PORTLAND CHURCH, TOWN OF PORTLAND.

The first German settlers of the southwestern part of Monroe county, known as Portland Center, came from Jefferson county, and were members of the Lutheran church. In May, 1862, Ferdinand Perso, Carl Voelz and William Hanke entered this district. Christian Hanke, August Savall and Frederic Breitenfeld came in close succession. Destitute of Lutheran preaching they resolved to send Mr. Christian Hanke, a strict Lutheran, to Mormon Cooley in order to secure the services of Rev. Fred. Wm. Hass. In 1865 this pioneer-preacher made his first appearance, traveling the distance of twenty-four miles on foot. Thus these early Lutherans were privileged to hear the gospel from the lips of an old acquaintance, for some had known the Rev. Hass in Pomerania, Germany, where he labored as teacher in Alt-Sanskow and Zuchen for over twenty years. He crossed the ocean in 1856, settling at Watertown, Wis., September 9, where, upon the advice of Phil. Wetzel, a teacher, a school was entrusted to his care by Rev. A. Wagner. October 1, 1858, he was made pastor of Bethany church and St. Michael's, near Hustisford, and through the instrumentality of Rev. G. Fachtmann he located at Mormon Cooley, town of Shelby (formerly town of Greenfield), July 9, 1862. He died, seventy-one years of age, June 14, 1890.

The next pastor was Rev. Henry C. Dagefoerde, who was influenced by the powerful sermons of Pastor Ludwig Harms to enter the Hermannsburg Foreign Mission Institute at Hermannsburg, Hanover, Germany, in his thirty-sixth year, and who enjoyed the reputation of having been an industrious laborer in Christ's vineyard until his death at Trumann, Minn., October 9, 1910. He took charge of this congregation when he was installed as pastor of St. John's Lutheran church at Barre Mills, LaCrosse county, popularly known as "Bostvick Valley church," May 11, 1873, coming from Leeds, Columbia county, where he served

his first charge after his arrival in America, in 1869. Rev. Dagefoerde supplied this small band of Lutherans with the means of grace in the Portland Center school house until he took leave of his congregation at Barre Mills to labor at Bloomfield, Wis.

After the resignation of Rev. Dagefoerde the congregation secured the service of Rev. Peter H. Lange, who was born at Schluepke, near Hermannsburg, Germany, August 28, 1843, and immigrated to the United States in 1872, settling at Peshtigo, Wis., where, October 6, he became pastor of a congregation that had lost church and parsonage in the great forest fires, October 6, 1872. He located at Barre Mills in December, 1877, and performed ministerial acts among these people until May, 1886, when he removed to Pipestone, Minn., to serve in the capacity of synodical missionary. During his stay, in 1878, a brick church, 20x30, was completed and dedicated, the neighboring ministers assisting. December 31, 1877, a constitution was drawn up and signed by the following members: C. A. Voelz, C. Hanke, Ferdinand Perso, August Savall, Martin Savall, August Hoehn, Carl Martin. The first regularly elected church officers were: Christian Hanke, Ferdinand Perso, C. A. Voelz. The death of Mr. Lange occurred March 22, 1900, at Weyauwega, Wisconsin.

The fourth incumbent was Rev. Richard Siegler, who pursued his collegiate studies at Northwestern University, Watertown, Wis., and has now advanced to the position of field missionary. He took up his residence at Barre Mills, April 26, 1886. In 1890, when West Salem and Bangor were added to his care, the congregation was advised to call upon the service of Rev. F. Bredlow, pastor of Zion's Lutheran church at Elroy.

In a congregational meeting held November 30, 1890, a call was extended to Rev. Bredlow for one year, his salary being $75. He served this people as well as he could every third Sunday, traveling by rail to Melvina or Norwalk and then walking the rest of the distance to Portland Center. The Rev. F. Bredlow was born May 31, 1852, at Eichberg, near Kreuz, Province of Posen, Germany. He came to this country in 1881 and then acquired his training for the work of the ministry at the Lutheran theological seminary of the Wisconsin synod in Milwaukee, located in Eimmermann's park, on Thirteenth, between Vine street and Fond du Lac avenue. He finished his course in 1886 and has served congregations at Theresa, Dodge county; Tuckertown, Sauk county, and Elroy, Juneau county. Mr. Bredlow is now

connected with the general council and serves congregations near Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada.

After the removal of Rev. Bredlow, the Rev. W. Parisius, who had recently arrived from the pro-seminary for America at Kropp, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, was placed in charge of this organization. He was introduced to his congregation at Elroy, August 27, 1893, by Rev. E. Mayerhoff, a superannuated minister of the Lutheran church, and drove to Portland via Kendall, Ontario, Cashton, a distance of about forty miles, once a month.

In 1895 this congregation came under the pastoral care of Rev. Theodor Hartwig, who located at Bangor as the first resident minister of St. Paul's church, an offshoot from the Bostvick Valley church, September 15, 1895. Rev. Hartwig obtained his education in the schools of the Lutheran church in Watertown and Milwaukee, is a contributor to the Theologische Quartalschrift, a religious periodical, and read a doctrinal paper at the last convention of the Wisconsin synod, assembled at Milwaukee, June 19-24, 1912.

When Rev. Hartwig took leave of this flock to follow a call to Naugat, Wis., the Rev. William F. Rader, for twenty-one years pastor of St. John's, at Wauwatosa, Wis., was appointed to this charge, his installation taking place in the fall of 1904. He remained until 1908, when he was transferred to Prairie du Chien, Wis., the Rev. H. Schmeling, of Sparta, in the meantime filling the pulpit.

The present pastor is the Rev. Carl W. Siegler, who ministered to St. John's church at Stanton, Neb., from October, 1900, to July, 1907, serving at the same time as recording secretary of the district synod of Nebraska, affiliated with the general synod of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and other states. He entered upon his duties in January, 1909.

The congregation now numbers eleven voting and five contributing members. The property owned by the congregation is estimated at $1,500. The present church officers are: C. Perso, Wm. Rosenow and A. Breitenfeld. A graveyard surrounds the church.

ST. PETER'S, TOWN OF CLIFTON.

The first Lutheran sermon in the towns of Clifton and Oakdale was preached during May, 1863, in the house of Christian Hergert, by Prof. Dr. Ed. F. Moldehnke, first itinerant mission-

ary of the Wisconosin synod. In 1865 St. Peter's, second oldest Lutheran congregation in Monroe county, commonly called "Clifton" or "Indian Creek" church, was organized at the residence of Christian Joos, who came to this section of the state from Jefferson county in 1859.

The first regular minister representing the Lutheran church in this vicinity was Rev. John August Hoyer, who emigrated from Hamburg, Germany, April 15, 1865, and came to Ridgeville, August 25, as the first resident minister in Monroe county. He preached his first sermon to the newly organized congregation in the latter part of October, supplying this charge with preaching every third Sunday, the services being held in private dwellings and public school houses. After two years of faithful labor, Rev. Hoyer accepted a call to Eldorado, near Fond du Lac, Wis., and preached his farewell sermon on the seventeenth Sunday after Trinity, October 13, 1867. His last entry in the Church-Record reads: "The Lord bless this congregation, young and old, unto eternal life and salvation. Amen."

His successor was Rev. Ludwig Ebert, who came to America from the Pilgrim Mission House at St. Chrischona, near Basel, Switzerland, in 1862, to serve the Lutheran church in the Diaspora. During his pastorate in 1869 steps were taken to erect a house of worship on a site presented to the congregation by Fred. Geil, two and one-half miles west from the present village of Clifton, on the old Minnesota stage road. The result was a frame building, 24x36x16 feet in dimensions, which was solemnly dedicated on the 17th of October, 1869, the Rev. Ebert preaching the dedicatory sermon at the altar from the First Book of Kings, eighth chapter, verses 22-30, 54-60, and then expounding from the pulpit the fundamental doctrine of justification according to John 3:16.

After Rev. Ebert's departure, which occurred around Easter, 1870, a call was extended to Rev. Albert F. Siegler, of Menomonie, Wis. He followed the example of his predecessor and resided at Ridgeville, breaking the bread of Life to this congregation every third Sunday. Extending his missionary journeys into Jackson, Wood and Juneau counties, he deemed it necessary to divide his field and induced Indian Creek, Dorset Ridge, South Ridge and Wilton to call their own minister.

This plan went into effect when Mr. W. H. Bergholz, a graduate from Concordia seminary, St. Louis, Mo., came to live at Dorset Ridge, six miles south of the Clifton church, his ordination and installation taking place July 13, 1873. In 1877 he severed

his connection with this charge, having received and accepted a call to Eldorado, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin.

He was followed by Rev. Carl Zlomke, who, after taking active part in the Austro-Prussian and Franco-Prussian wars, had left the fatherland as a candidate of the Wangemann Mission Institute at Berlin, Germany, commissioned for emigrant missionary work in America. After a conscientious discharge of his ministerial duties he moved to Golden, Ill.

Mr. Julius Badke, graduating from the Practical seminary of the Missouri synod at Springfield, Ill., succeeded to the pastorate in 1880, being ordained for the ministry by Rev. E. A. Pankow, November 25, 1880. He relinquished his charge in July, 1884, and then left for Glencoe, Trempeleau county, Wisconsin, afterwards entering the Canada synod, of which he still is a member, residing at Brantford, Ontario.

Immediately after his predecessor's resignation, Rev. Frank Steyer was called from Ahnapee (Algoma), Kewaunee county, Wisconsin, where he had been active as missionary, covering the territory along the Wisconsin Central railroad, from Auburndale to Ashland. During his pastorship a commodious parsonage was built on the property adjoining the church, and henceforth we find the ministers of this charge permanently located in the midst of this congregation.

In a joint meeting held at Wilton, under the chairmanship of Rev. A. Schoedel in the spring of the year 1889, it was decided to divide the field comprising St. Peter's at Clifton, Immanuel's at Dorset Ridge, St. Matthew's at South Ridge, and St. Paul's at Wilton. As a result Rev. John Casparius Himmler was called to Indian Creek and Dorset Ridge, while South Ridge and Wilton became a separate charge. Mr. Himmler reports at the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the congregation, 664 baptisms, 304 confirmations, 112 weddings and 181 burials.

Rev. Himmler's ministry with this organization lasted until 1895, and Rev. Henry Viestenz was chosen as the next officiating pastor. On May 25, 1896, the resolution was passed to erect a new church. Messrs. R. Grassmann, H. Battalia, J. Senz, A. Brockmann and C. von Haden were appointed the building committee. October 17, 1896, the new frame church, 34x50 feet, was consecrated to the service of Almighty God, Rev. J. Himmler, Helenville, Wis., and Rev. L. Rauch, Fountain City, Wis., preaching able sermons. After an efficient service of seven years Rev. Viestenz was obliged to resign on account of ill health, March 16, 1902.

When Rev. Viestenz moved to Tacoma, Wash., to regain his

health, Rev. Immanuel Brackebusch was chosen to become his successor. He came from Door county and preached his first sermon in March. December 13, 1103, St. Paul's church, at Hustler, was organized with members of this congregation. In a regular congregational meeting, held on the 26th of June, 1912, it was decided to introduce English preaching once a month. The first service of this kind was conducted July 14, 1912.

The congregation at present numbers sixty-six voting and fourteen paying members. The present officiary of the church is: Rev. I. Brackebusch, president; Rich. Wagner, vice-president; Ed. Wappler, secretary; Al. Brockmann, treasurer; Gustav Grassmann, John Brandt, Louis von Haden, trustees. Connected with the church is a school with thirty to forty scholars, the basement of the church being used as a school room. The church property is valued at about $5,000.

IMMANUEL'S, TOWN OF CLIFTON.

Immanuel's Lutheran church more commonly known as "Dorset church," is located five miles northwest from Kendall. It was organized, in all probability, in 1870, upon the suggestion of Mr. Hugo Wetzel, who was the first German pioneer in this vicinity, coming from Dodge county in 1861. In the summer of 1870 a parsonage and a church were erected of hewn logs upon a site deeded to the organization by Ernestine Wetzel on March 28, 1870. During the same year, in the fall, Rev. Phil. Wetzel arrived from Hustisford, Wis., and preached at irregular intervals to Hugo Wetzel, Christian Hilke, Henry Zarling, Fred Thurow, Carl Glander, Christian Wolkow, Carl Radloff and Fred Raabe. But since Mr. Wetzel was no ordained minister nor connected with a Lutheran synod, the Rev. A. F. Siegler, pastor at Ridgeville, was called upon to perform the duties of an ordained clergyman. He preached in the parsonage and in the incomplete church until Rev. W. Bergholz was chosen first resident pastor, serving at the same time St. Peter's at Clifton and St. Matthew's at South Ridge.

In a joint meeting which was called by the Dorset, Clifton and South Ridge congregations, January 10, 1877, it was agreed to appoint Rev. C. Zlomke from Atlantic, Ia., to the charge. He entered the field during May, preaching on two consecutive Sundays at Dorset and Clifton, and devoting every third Sabbath day to missionary work in the South Ridge and Wilton settlements. His salary amounted to $325, Immanuel's contributing $125. When he was granted an honorary dismissal, June 27, 1880,

he accepted a position at Golden, Ill. The Rev. E. Pankow preached during the interval.

In October, 1880, the congregation came under the pastoral care of Rev. J. Badke, who had been connected with the Illinois Staatszeitung, in Chicago, until he determined to prepare himself for the ministry, graduating from Concordia seminary, Springfield, Ill., in June, 1880. He moved into the parsonage on the 26th of October and delivered his introductory sermon on the last of the same month. Under his administration, February 11, 1883, the board of trustees was enlarged, consisting now of six members instead of the customary three, viz.: Carl Siekert, Ferd. Waege, Fred Raabe, Fred Thurow, Fred Steingraeber and Henry Westphal. In January, 1883, Rev. Badke decided to move to Wilton. This caused considerable dissatisfaction on the part of the congregation, and the visitor, Rev. Phil. von Rohr, Winona, Minn., was called upon to settle the difficulties. The result was that the congregation, consisting of thirty-six families, changed the constitution and called a Reformed minister.

On May 13, 1883, Rev. John Wirz, stationed at Ridgeville, where, in 1873, under similar conditions, a Reformed church sprang into existence, spoke his first sermon and was soon after, June 3, chosen as preacher. In consequence of this change a few members deemed it inconsequent to have a Reformed pastor preach to Lutheran people and withdrew. They were: Fred Zimmermann, August Klatt, Fred Thurow, Carl Zimmermann, August Wolfgram, Henry Koehler and Carl Bellack.

Rev. F. Steyer, who had been appointed by the remaining three congregations, took up his residence at Clifton and came to preach in the Strozinsky school house to the few aforenamed Lutherans. Instruction for confirmation was conducted in a vacant house belonging to Mr. Bruno Krueger. After a few months they worshiped in district school house No. 5. At last, the congregation failing to collect the promised $200 salary, the Rev. Wirz was asked to resign, June 4, 1886. On April 17, 1887, Rev. Steyer was allowed to preach in the church, whereupon he was chosen pastor May 2d.

In the spring of 1889 Rev. Steyer dissolved his connection with this congregation in order to go to Fair Haven, Stearns county, Minnesota, and Rev. J. Himmler came to fill the vacancy, his installation taking place on the 7th day of July, 1889. He labored diligently in the midst of this congregation and at Clifton, South Ridge and Wilton, having in the meantime separated from this charge with intentions of calling their own minister.

Rev. Himmler, having been called to St. Peter's church at Helenville, Wis., in the spring of 1895, was succeeded by Rev. H. Viestenz, who had last held a position as pastor of several Lutheran organizations in the town of Greenfield, Sauk county, Wisconsin. Soon after his arrival it became evident that a larger edifice was essential to the prosperity of the congregation, and it was decided to erect a new church structure. The building committee was composed of the following men: Fred Zimmermann, Christian Glander and Fred Raabe. In the fall of 1898 the elegant church, 28x44 feet in size, with a seating capacity of 250, was completed, the dedication taking place on October 23, Rev. W. Parisius officiating in the forenoon and Rev. G. Bergemann preaching an appropriate sermon at the afternoon's service. In 1902 Rev. Viestenz' health began to fail and he was finally obliged to discontinue his work on that account.

After his departure the congregation gave a call to Rev. Im. Brackebusch, the present pastor, who was installed into the pastorate of Immanuel's Lutheran church on the 9th of March, 1902, by request of Rev. Phil. von Rohr, late president of the Wisconsin synod, the Rev. J. G. Glaeser delivering the sermon.

The church enrollment numbers at present forty-two voting and eleven paying members. The present board of trustees are: Emil Pasch, president; August Raabe, secretary; Christian Glander, treasurer; Ed. Wendorf, Al. Gloede and Carl Glander, elders. The church property is valued at $4,500. Every other year German school is held during six months, the average attendance being about twenty-five. Public services are conducted every alternate Sunday. The minister occupies the parsonage at Clifton, six miles north.

ST. MATTHEW'S, TOWN OF WELLINGTON.

The nucleus of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, at the junction of South Ridge and Pleasant Ridge, in the town of Wellington, may be found in a conversation between Louis Friske and a Lutheran from Ridgeville, at Enderby's mill in Wilton, in the fall of 1869. When told about the existence of a Lutheran church at Ridgeville, Louis Friske and his brother Julius walked fourteen miles to hear a Lutheran sermon. As a result Rev. L. Ebert, pastor of St. John's Lutheran church in the town of Ridgeville, inaugurated Lutheran preaching at South Ridge, where until then Methodist ministers from Spring Valley had been conducting services at the Musch school house with Lutheran people. The homes of Peter Friske and John Klaehr

were the first gathering places. Those who attended here were: Louis Friske, Milliam Schatz, Carl Brandenburg, Peter Friske, William Pahl, Carl Rohde, William Arndt, August Bartz, Louis Ziebart, Fred Maluege, Julius Friske, Louis Musch, William Brandenburg, John Klaehr. Pastor Ebert conducted divine worship once a month on week days, administering Holy Communion on Sundays, this happening four times during the year.

When, in April, 1871, Rev. Ebert resigned at Ridgeville and chose some other vocation, the Rev. A. F. Siegler was appointed to fill the vacancy. He continued the good work of his predecessor and came to labor among these Lutherans during midweek, mostly on Wednesdays, accompanied by W. Waegner, a devout layman. On account of large attendance Mr. Siegler abandoned the services in private houses and began preaching at the Musch school house.

Noticing that the care of fifteen congregations and preaching stations exceeded his power, the Rev. Siegler insisted upon calling a special minister for Dorset Ridge, Indian Creek and South Ridge. The proper man was found in the person of Rev. W. Bergholz, who took up his residence in an old-time log house on the Dorset ridge in 1873. He came every third Sabbath day, often walking the distance of fourteen miles. The minister's salary at that time was $3 per member.

Rev. Bergholz, in the meantime having received a call to the eastern part of the state, was followed by Rev. C. Zlomke, who withdrew from the Iowa synod in 1875 on account of doctrinal differences. His installation took place on Monday before Pentecost, May 14, 1877, and was effected by Rev. A. F. Siegler. Mr. Zlomke, who served in the Second squadron of the First Royal Hussar regiment at Danzig, Germany, in 1864, made use of his skill as a horseman, coming on horseback from Dorset to teach the children the fundamental truths of Christianity on Saturday and preaching Christ every third Sunday.

After three years' service Rev. Zlomke was succeeded by Rev. J. Badke, who came from the fatherland in June, 1864, and after many hardships finally entered the ministry, serving the congregations at Dorset, Clifton, Wilton and South Ridge as his first charge. During his incumbency, January, 1881, the resolution was passed to build a church. January 7, 1883, the church officers, Gottlieb Jesse, Louis Ziebart, Henry Klaehr, were authorized to purchase a tract of land comprising one acre from Frank Webb, at a cost of $60.

In the meantime this charge was vacated, Rev. F. Steyer,

for whom a parsonage had been built at Clifton, beginning his ministry in 1884. Difficulties arising during the building period, 1886-1887, demanded preaching at the red brick and the Heffernan school houses, until the new church, 30x50x20 feet, was completed, and October 16, 1887, appropriately dedicated, the Rev. A. Schroedel delivering the sermon and the local pastor ably conducting the dedicatory services. Rev. Steyer preached his last sermon on Easter Monday, April 22, 1889, and then removed to Minnesota, where he united with the Missouri synod, which, together with the Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Nebraska synods, forms the synodical conference, the largest Lutheran church body in America.

In the spring of 1889, by the recommendation of the synod, this parish, comprising four congregations in the eastern section of this county since 1873, divided, St. Peter's at Clifton and Immanuel's at Dorset forming one charge, and St. Paul's at Wilton and St. Matthew's at South Ridge the other. The latter at once extended a uninamous call to Rev. J. Ziebell, who accepted and took charge July 6, 1889. Immediately after his installation he settled at Wilton, six miles northwest, from which place this congregation was supplied until it became an independent charge, in 1908.

A several years' vacancy occurred when Rev. Ziebell resigned in the winter of 1892. During this time, 1892-1895, St. Matthew's had the service of Rev. C. Koehler, from Ridgeville. He conducted divine worship every third Sunday, tending at the same time to the construction of a parsonage at Wilton, towards which this congregation contributed $250.

The next incumbent was Rev. J. Hering, at one time assistant professor in the seminary of the Iowa synod. During his ministry, in 1899, an organ was bought; two bells were dedicated in 1905. January 25, 1908, it was agreed to separate from the Wilton charge and engage a minister. A property opposite the church was secured from F. F. Machus at $1,500 to serve as a parsonage.

Rev. H. Zimmermann, formerly at Shickley, Neb., followed the call which was extended to him on the 11th day of June, 1908, thus becoming the first resident pastor. Authorized by the president of the synod, the Rev. Zimmermann was installed as pastor of this conogregation by Rev. J. Hering on the 2d of August, 1908. Upon his instigation a second organ was obtained, which served for the first time on the 23d of May, 1910. Rev. A. F. Siegler preaching a special sermon upon this occasion.

On November 5, 1911, a total remodeling of the church was planned, with a school room in the basement.

The present church membership consists of 88 voting, 8 contributing and 310 communicant members, 454 souls. This church also maintains a day school, which has an enrollment of forty pupils, German and religion being the principal studies. Regular monthly English services have become a permanent institution. The following are the present officers: Wm. Graewin, president; Otto Schnell, secretary; Louis Klaehr, treasurer; Albert Neitzel, elder. The value of the church property, including parsonage, is about $6,300. The church will be ready for re-dedication about the 1st of September.

ST. PAUL'S, WILTON.

When, in 1873, upon the request of Rev. A. F. Siegler, until then the only stationary Lutheran minister in Monroe county, the Rev. W. Bergholz was chosen pastor of the Indian Creek, Dorset and South Ridge settlements, this field of labor was soon, in 1875, extended by the addition of a preaching post in the vicinity of Wilton. The names of those assembling for divine services at the Mitchel school house, one and one-half miles south of the village, were: Christian Holch, John Jesse, William Arndt, August Bartz, Carl Liefke, August Rohde and Carl Brandenburg. They contributed $20 towards the support of the minister.

Upon the departure of Mr. Bergholz, which occurred in 1877, Rev. C. Zlomke was elected to serve the society, the Rev. A. F. Siegler supplying the pulpit until his arrival. Pastor Zlomke came to proclaim the gospel to this little flock every third Sunday on his return from South Ridge, where he preached in the morning. His annual pay was $30. In 1880, when the same call had been tendered for the second time, Rev. Zlomke moved to Illinois, and from there to St. Joseph, Mich., where he was connected with Trinity Lutheran church for twenty-eight years, retiring from active service in 1911 after a continuous service of thirty-eight years.

In 1880 Rev. J. Badke was appointed to take charge of the four congregations belonging to this parish: Immanuel's at Dorset Ridge, St. Peter's at Indian Creek, St. Matthew's at South Ridge, and St. Paul's near Wilton. On account of inconvenience of location and insufficient accommodations, it was determined in May, 1882, to discontinue preaching at the Mitchel school house. Services were now held at the United Brethren

church, in Wilton, which was rented for an indefinite period at $16 per annum. In January, 1883, Rev. Badke found it expedient to live in Wilton and consequently vacated the parsonage on Dorset Ridge. Here he came in contact with Rev. Phil. Wetzel, who, in consequence of advanced age, had retired from the Dorset Ridge in the fall of 1873, preaching occasionally to his family and a circle of close friends. After the arrival of Rev. Badke, Mr. Wetzel refrained from public preaching, and soon, in 1884, returned to Watertown, Wis., his former home, where he died March 8, 1890, eighty-four years of age. In 1884, April 2, the congregation adopted a constitution by which it shall be governed. The church officers appointed at this meeting were: W. Arndt, H. Mittag, J. Schroeder, F. Waege. Rev. Badke commenced preaching every alternate Sunday in the afternoon, for which service he received $30, since 1883, $50.

Mr. Badke was succeeded in 1884 by Rev. F. Steyer, who preached to his parishioners in the chapel owned by the United Brethren, coming fourteen miles from Clifton, where a roomy and comfortable parsonage had been built for the pastors of this charge. February 7, 1887, the congregation organized under the state laws in the presence of Mr. August Newhouse, the justice of the peace. Soon the necessity of possessing a place of worship was severely felt. Steps were, therefore, taken to secure a site on which to erect a suitable church edifice. A tract of land was purchased from Frank Farmer, one block west from the English church. Two hundred and sixty-four dollars were signed by the thirty-four members, and $115 were collected from the business people and neighboring congregations. The completed church building was appropriately dedicated December 11, 1887. Revs. A. Schroedel, of Ridgeville, and A. Sehlei, of Wonewoc, Wis., officiating with the pastor. In the spring of 1889 Rev. Steyer accepted a pastorate in Minnesota, but soon moved to Arkansas, where he has served a number of congregations attached to the Missouri synod for more than eighteen years.

After Rev. Steyer's honorary dismissal, the synod advised to divide this charge, proposing Rev. J. Himmler for Indian Creek and Dorset Ridge, and Rev. J. Ziebell for Wilton and South Ridge. The installation of Rev. Ziebell, formerly of Elroy, occurred on the 7th of July, 1889, the sermon of the occasion being given by Rev. A. Schroedel. July 14, 1892, two acres of land were bought from O. N. Hillger for a cemetery, the ground being consecrated on the 31st of July. On December 5,

1892, Rev. Ziebell delivered his farewell address and resigned from the ministry.

During the interim which followed Rev. Christian Koehler, pastor at Ridgeville, supplied the congregation with regular preaching from December, 1892, to January, 1895. He superintended, in 1893, the erection of a parsonage on the lot adjoining the church. In the construction of this parsonage, main part 24x16x16 feet, addition 24x16x10 feet, an expenditure of $881 has been made, South Ridge congregation contributing $250.

December 14, 1894, Rev. Julius Hering, who received his classical training at the universities of Leipsig and Rostock, Germany, was called from Norton, Minn. The call was accepted and by authority of the president of the Wisconsin synod, the late Phil. von Rohr, the Rev. C. Koehler installed Mr. Hering on the 27th of January, 1895. An organ was purchased in 1896, a bell was placed in the belfry in 1898, church furniture was obtained in 1899, a marble baptismal font is used since 1911. On January 23, 1897, the spire of the church was struck by lightning, causing considerable damage. July 4, 1897, it was decided to repair the damage and add sixteen feet to the old church. Mr. Adolf Prochnow, the contractor, finished the work in November.

The membership of this church is represented by about seventy families. A parochial school is held under the auspices of the church, with about thirty-five in attendance, in a special building bought for this purpose in 1906. The present church officers are: Fred Schroeder, president; Ferdinand Waege, secretary; Hugo Limp, treasurer; Emil Friske, elder. The amount of the pastor's salary is $550. Since 1908 St. Paul's is an independent charge.

ST. JOHN'S, KENDALL.

The first attempt to gather the few scattered Lutherans in and about Kendall into a local congregation was made by Rev. John Wirz, a Reformed minister, in 1884. Mr. Wirz, who lived on the Dorset Ridge, where, besides Salem's Reformed church at Ridgeville, he served Immanuel's Lutheran church, came here every third Sunday to preach to eight families: Julius Raabe, Henry Paeth, Ernest Siekert, John Boetzel, August Rosenkranz, Carl Sumke, August Raabe, George Krause, receiving $8 per member for his salary. But when, in the summer of 1886, Mr. Wirz accepted a call to Cincinnati, O., this little flock disbanded, some of its adherents moving West, the remainder at-

tending church in the neighborhood, at South Ridge and Dorset or North Ridge.

The second effort to establish a Lutheran church was made twelve years later by Rev. Wm. Parisius, who resided at Elroy, and preached to a congregation in the town of Glendale, four miles southeast of Kendall. He conducted divine services every alternate Sunday, especially in the shoe shop of Mr. Jul. Friske, the former town hall, having about twenty persons in the audience, among others: H. Prielipp, August Rheden, Julius Friske. Frank Schanke, Louis Jahnke, Emil Friske and Fred Mantzke. In 1899 failing health compelled him to limit his work to the congregations at Elroy, Glendale and Hillsboro, thus leaving Kendall Lutherans without a spiritual guide. His successor, Rev. L. Rauch, preached twice in the house of Mr. H. Prielipp, in 1900.

After five years Rev. Im. Brackebusch, pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran church at Clifton, endeavored to organize a Lutheran congregation. Upon the urgent request of Mr. Fred Zimmermann, an elder of the Dorset charge living in Kendall, Rev. Brackebusch wrote to the Home Mission Board of the Wisconsin synod, asking them to commission a pastor for Kendall. But they did not deem the plan expedient and matters were dropped. Then it happened that the Rev. Brackebusch called the attention of Rev. Phil. von Rohr, at that time president of the Wisconsin synod, to this inviting and seemingly promising field, whereupon the responsibility for the provision of these people rested with the president himself. In May, 1906, the superintendent of the home Mission board, Rev. E. F. Dornfeld, came to investigate the religious outlook, advising to form a congregation and raise $100 as a salary for a pastor. A meeting was called for the 17th of June, to take place at the home of Fred Zimmermann. A call signed by August Wolfgram, August Zirk, Fred Zimmermann, Henry Kiel, George Wiese, Herman Prielipp and Henry Stade, was delivered to Rev. Brackebusch, instructing him to appear with it before synod, assembling at Milwaukee, June 20-26. The result was that Senior E. Mayerhoff was induced to look after the spiritual welfare of these Lutherans. Coming from Wonewoc, Wis., by rail, he preached six times in the Methodist church until, in October, he was called to Norwalk to officiate as vicar.

In 1907 Rev. Otto Engel came to Norwalk as a graduate from the theological seminary in Milwaukee, Wis., with instructions to reserve every third Sunday for Kendall. He delivered his

first sermon at Norwalk on the 25th of August, and came to Kendall to rent a church and advertise Lutheran services on the last of the same month. The Rev. Engel preached his first sermon to a Kendall audience September 8, 1907, at the Baptist church, then located in the northern section of the village, near the Catholic church. When the small band of faithful Lutherans were refused the use of this house of worship, they rented the English Methodist church. Soon after a Sunday school was commenced, with Mrs. Sophia Kiel, Manda Wiese, Minnie Waffle, Paulina Pasch as first teachers. After several informal meetings a special meeting was announced for the 12th of January, 1908. On that day an organization was effected, the society resolving to adopt the name, "Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Congregation." The founders were: Fred Zimmermann, August Krause, Fred Flatow, Henry Kiel, Herman Prielipp, George Wiese, August Klatt, Henry Stade, William Witt, August Heseley, Fred Apmann, Gustave Gruhlke. Having as yet no church property of their own, they at once decided to accept a lot donated by Mr. H. P. Waffle, a descendant of the Mohawk Dutch in New York, and proposed to build a church. George Wiese and William Witt comprised the building committee. On the 10th of May, 1908, a regular congregational meeting was held for the purpose of incorporating according to the laws of the state. May 13 rules and by-laws for the government of the church were accepted and signed at the house of Henry Kiel. The new church, a frame building in gothic style, 30x56x18 feet, was solemnly dedicated on the 28th of October, 1908, the following pastors participating: Rev. Im. Brackebusch, of Clifton; Rev. H. Zimmermann, of South Ridge; Rev. O. Kuhlow, of Wonewoc, Wis. The total cost of the building was $2,800. The first mission festival was held September 12, 1909, Revs. H. Viestenz, Greenfield, Wis.; G. Baum, North Freedom, Wis., and H. Zimmermann, South Ridge, delivering mission sermons. The first confirmation took place March 20, 1910, six being taken up into membership.

At present the congregation numbers twenty-five voting, five contributing and about seventy communicant members. The summer school, whose organization is contemporaneous with the beginning of the church itself, has an attendance of seventeen pupils. The church property is valued at $3,500. The present trustees are: August Krause, president; Fred Zimmermann, secretary; Henry Kiel, treasurer. Meetings are held every third

Sunday, the forenoon being devoted to German, the afternoon to English preaching. The pastor lives at Norwalk.

ST. JOHN'S, SHENNINGTON.

This congregation is located on the boundary line of Monroe and Juneau counties, the majority of its members living in the town of Byron, Monroe county.

The first Lutheran minister of the Wisconsin synod who visited this district was the Rev. G. E. Bergemann, then residing at Tomah, thirteen miles southwest, the occasion being the burial of Mr. Will's child, February, 1897. Those who came to hear the preaching of Christ and Him crucified, were members of the families of Will, Kunkel and Koppehengst. The Rev. Bergemann labored very acceptably for two years, when he was called to Fond du Lac, Wis., where, since 1908, he serves in the capacity of president of the Wisconsin synod.

This preaching post was now supplied by the ministers occupying the parsonage at Clifton. In 1899 the Rev. H. F. Viestenz entered the field, having previously been preaching at a school house two and one-half miles north of Oakdale. Under his energetic guidance St. John's was organized at the red school house, one and one-half miles west of Shennington. Those who signed their names to the constitution were: Fred Laudon, J. B. Helmuth, August Schmeckel, Henry Busse, F. Kunkel, C. Tiedemann, Henry Busching, John Schmidt and Herman Baumann.

When in 1902 Rev. Viestenz removed to the Pacific coast, the Rev. I. Brackebusch was appointed to take charge of this newly organized congregation. At his suggestion a meeting was called for August 17, 1902, at which it was resolved to erect a house for the worship of God, 26x36 in dimensions, tower 56 feet, on a site presented by Mr. Shoening, an old German settler coming from Silver Lake, Wis. May 3, 1902, the corner stone was laid according to the ritual of the Lutheran church, the Rev. Wm. Nommensen, Mauston, Wis., preaching in the English language. Dedication was held with elaborate ceremonies on August 23, Revs. J. G. Glaeser and H. W. Schmeling assisting the local pastor. The total outlay of money was $1,350. Rev. Brackebusch's ministry with this infant congregation lasted until March 9, 1905, when, upon the recommendation of the home mission board it was decided to join with Babcock (Rev. G. Baum, Grand Rapids), Germantown (Rev. W. Nommensen, Mauston), and Millston (Rev. J. Glaeser, Tomah), in calling a

pastor to Necedah. In the course of the year 1905 Rev. M. Busack was called to the pastorship.

The next pastor was Rev. O. B. Nommensen, a candidate for the ministry, his ordination and installation taking place on the 25th of August, 1907, Rev. B. P. Nommensen, Wm. Nommensen and Brackebusch officiating. In December, 1907, New Lisbon was added to this charge, and Rev. Nommensen removed to that place. February 7, 1909, an honorary dismissal was granted to Rev. Nommensen, allowing him to accept a position as pastor at South Milwaukee.

The present pastor is Rev. H. Brockmann, who came to this field from Beaver Dam, Wis. He has established for himself a reputation as an artist, having painted the life-size portraits of Rev. Phillip von Rohr, late president of the Wisconsin synod, and of Rev. John Bading, venerable president of the synodical conference, for Northwestern college, Watertown, Wis.

The present membership includes eighteen families. The present board of trustees consists of the following members: Gust Woggan, Fred Laudon, August Schmeckel. The value of the church property is $1,700. The church is served every alternate Sunday from New Lisbon.

ST. LUKE'S, TOWN OF GLENDALE.

The German element in the town of Glendale, to the greatest extent Lutherans coming from the metropolis of the state during the panic of 1893, at first attended church in Elroy, where a Lutheran congregation existed since 1885. In the winter of 1894 Rev. Wm. Parisius, who is closely related to the famous dramatist, Henric Ibsen, conducted school in the Schauer valley, instructing children from five to fifteen years of age, and through them gaining their parents for church. In January, 1898, a number of Lutherans assembled at the home of Gustav Schauer for the purpose of organizing a congregation. There were thirteen charter members, as follows: William Wallberg, Fred Schauer, Robert Holtz, Ferdinand Ziese, Gustav Schauer, William Knoll, Julius Weber, Carl Schauer, William Weisspfennig, John Zirk, William Ludwig and William Matz. On the 12th of February, 1898, it was proposed to build a church on the site deeded to the congregation by Gustav Schauer. The building committee consisted of Wm. Wallberg, Rob. Holtz and H. Ziese. The church, though small, 20x36x14 feet, is neat and churchly in appearance. The dedicatory services were held by the pastor, Rev. Parisius, in the fall of 1899, the sermon being

delivered by Senior E. Mayerhoff, Wonewoc, Wis., one of the oldest and most honored members of the Wisconsin synod.

When Rev. Parisius, in 1900, assumed a pastorate in Burr Oak, LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, Rev. L. Rauch, of Fountain City, Wis., was unanimously elected to be pastor of Zion's at Elroy, St. Paul's at Hillsboro, and St. Luke's at Glendale. He accepted in August, supplying the pulpit of the last mentioned congregation every second week. During his administration the first mission festival was celebrated, October 15, 1911, Rev. E. Mayerhoff preaching the morning sermon and stud. theol. H. Zimmermann rendering a suitable sermon in the afternoon. Upon his instigation a Sunday school was organized, with Mr. Wm. Wallberg as superintendent and the following as teachers: Messrs. Jul. Seefeld, Wm. Ludwig, Carl Schauer, Rich. Ziese, Carl Matz, and Miss Bertha Ziese.

Proposed by Dr. Stoecker, the court chaplain, for a pastorate in Berlin, Germany, Rev. Rauch resigned in the fall of 1903, and was succeeded by Rev. P. Schroeder, who had been serving congregations at Hartland and Pewaukee, Wis., since 1897. In 1905 the congregation purchased an organ and communion ware. The lodge question, which caused a rupture in the congregation at Elroy in 1906, also agitated the members of this congregation, but without serious results.

Rev. E. Duerr became successor to Rev. Schroeder, who resigned in order to accept a call to Germania, Wis. His stay was of short duration, vacating the charge in the fall of 1910, by following a call to the Zion-Rosendale charge in Fond du Lac county.

Shortly after the resignation of Rev. Duerr, Rev. H. Zimmermann, of South Ridge, served as a supply for nine months, until, in July, 1911, the present pastor, Rev. G. Westerhaus, a late graduate from the seminary at Milwaukee, came to take up his ministerial duties. He introduced regular English preaching with much success, and teaches a summer school.

The congregation has seventeen voting and a few paying members on the roll, and has a graveyard of its own. The present board of trustees are: Carl Schauer, vice-president; Wm. Matz, secretary; Fred Schultz, treasurer. This little flock contributes $125 per annum towards the support of the pastor.

CHAPTER LIV.

NORWEGIAN CHURCHES.

BY REV. A. H. EIKJARUD.

Norwegian Lutheran Church of Fish Creek. The territory where the Norwegian Lutheran Church of Fish Creek is located was first settled by Ole Hansen Ekern in 1855. The following year Nils Hansen came and in 1858 Amund Hansen. These pioneers settled in the upper part of Fish Creek valley. The ridge was not at that time considered worth very much and on the distance from Fish Creek to Newry only one dwelling house was to be found. The first settlers on the ridge were Ole Andersen, John Svensen, Grilbrand Paulsen, Mathias, Even and William Johnson (1859), Hans Hansen, Magnus Svensen, Ole Svensen, Marcus Gulbrandsen and John Eriksen (1861). Every year thereafter Norwegian settlers came thick and fast and the beautiful valleys and ridges of Fish Creek became a little Norway. From the early 60s Rev. A. C. Preus from Coon Prairie occasionally preached the gospel among them, and as they as yet had no church meetings were for many years held in the dwelling house of Gulbrand Paulsen. January, 1869, Fish Creek Norwegian Congregation was organized and a constitution adopted. Rev. A. C. Preus served as their pastor to June 5, 1871. December 3, 1871, a meeting was held and it was decided to build a church on a piece of land bought from Mrs. Ole Olsen Damkaasen. Rev. H. Halvorsen from Coon Prairie served the congregation occasionally as his time permitted until December, 1874, when he was succeeded by cand. theol. A. S. Meling, who besides Fish Creek served three congregations at Coon Valley to July 1, 1882. Together with these same congrgations Fish Creek called Rev. E. Jensen, who was their pastor for eleven years to July 1, 1893. The congregation now decided to join the charge of Rev. A. H. Eikjarud, North Coon Prairie, Portland and Brush Creek, and he has been the minister of the gospel at Fish Creek to the present time.

From a small beginning the congregation increased every year and it became necessary to build a new and larger church, which was ready for use the last part of 1893, and the next year they

took part in the erection of the Norwegian Lutheran parsonage at Cashton. Very seldom have I seen a congregation where the attendance at divine services is better, and especially so among the young people.

Portland Norwegian Lutheran Church is located in the town of Portland, five miles northwest from Cashton. In the early 60s the first Norwegians settled around Melvina, in Cannon valley and on the surrounding ridges. For many years there was no organized congregation, but services occasionally were held by Rev. A. C. Preus from Coon Prairie at different places among the farmers. For confirmant instructions the children had to journey to the far off Coon Prairie church, one and one-half miles south of where Westby now is located. April 2 and 8, 1874, meetings were held at Melvina, where Portland Norwegian Lutheran Congregation was organized and a constitution adopted. Ole Thoresen, Christopher Brown and Hans Davidsen were elected as trustees. At the same time it was decided to build a church on the present location and call Rev. H. Halvorsen from Coon Prairie as their pastor. The first meeting in the new church was held the same year—August 23. Rev. Halvorsen served as their pastor from 1874 to 1895. February 5, 1890, cand. theol. A. H. Eikjarud was called as chaplain for Rev. Halvorsen, and when the charge was divided in 1895 a call was extended to him from the northern part, consisting of North Coon Prairie, Portland and Brush Creek congregations. He has been their pastor up to the present time. For every year the congregation of Portland has increased in membership and has been active and faithful workers for the welfare of the church.

May 25, 1893, they decided, together with the other congregations in the call, to build a parsonage at Cashton, where their pastor has resided ever since.

BY LARS OLSON AAS.

The Immanuel United Norwegian Congregation. The Immanuel United Norwegian Congregation of the town of Portland, Monroe county, was organized in 1890 with about 100 members. The majority of the members were formerly of the Norwegian Synod and quite a few new members joined. The church was built the same year on a lot donated by Martin P. Moen and was a brick veneer building, costing about $3,000. On May 22, 1907, the church was struck by lightning and was totally destroyed. In the year 1908 a new church was built on the same lot, which was also a brick veneer building, at a cost of $7,500.

The first pastor of this congregation and three other congregations in Vernon county was Rev. Chr. Nodtvedt. In the year 1894 Rev. Chr. Nodtvedt resigned and a call was extended to Rev. Martin Gulbrandson, which he accepted. He served as pastor from 1895 to the time of his death, December 17, 1907. His resting place is in the cemetery by this church. Rev. J. Tanner was temporary pastor until 1909, when a call was extended to Rev. Chr. Sybelrud, who served until 1912, when he resigned. Rev. E. Hofstad is now serving as temporary pastor. A call has been extended to Rev. S. O. Rondestwedt, but it is not certain that he will accept. The present membership of this congregation is 350. The first trustees of this congregation were Lars O. Aas, Chr. Anderson and S. Stenerson; secretary, John O. Aas; treasurer, Martin P. Moen. The present trustees are James Luckason, Ole Justen, Andrew Johnson, Ole Aarness and Ingebrit Olson; secretary, Lars O. Aas; treasurer, Ole C. Aas.

The Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Sparta, Wis., was organized about the year 1880. The first minister to preside was the Rev. A. C. Preus, of Coon Prairie. He was succeeded by Rev. I. B. Frich, of La Crosse, who was followed by Rev. A. G. Helgeson, of La Crosse. The next pastor was E. O. Vik, of La Crosse, who for twenty-five years, on September 7, 1912, has presided over the congregation of the church, its membership consisting of twelve families.

CHAPTER LV.

BIOGRAPHY

Lars Oleson Aas, who lives on his farm of eighty acres in section twenty-five Portland township, is a native of Eidsvold, Norway, and was born November 16, 1852. His parents were Ole and Mary (Lee) Aas. The father was born in 1807 and spent his whole life in Norway, where he died in 1859. The mother, who was born in 1810, came to the United States with the family a short time after the death of her husband and settled in Portland township when Lars was 16 years old, and here spent the remaining years of her life, her death occurring January 2, 1897. Of a family of three children, Lars is the only surviving son. The names of those deceased are John and Catherine. Coming to the United States in 1869, Mr. Aas found employment among the farmers and endured the hardships common to the pioneers of Wisconsin. By hard work, thrift and economy he accumulated his earnings, and in 1885 purchased his present farm from Andrew Erickson and immediately set to work to improve the place and establish the home. He built a log house, which is still well perserved and to which he has since made additions, together with his commodious barn and other outbuildings, he has a substantial and comfortable farm home.

On March 19, 1885, Mr. Aas was united in marriage to Miss Annette P. Brethingen, daughter of Peder and Karen Brethingen, prominent and enterprising citizens of Vernon county, Wisconsin. To this union has been born one daughter, Karla Mabel, now Mrs. Henry P. Halverson, of Portland township.

Mr. Aas takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county, and all matters pertaining to their welfare receives his hearty support. He has been treasurer of his town and in 1900 and again in 1910 was census enumerator for Portland township. In religious matters Mr. Aas and his family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is secretary.

Edward M. Adams, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Ridgeville township, was born at Laporte, Indiana, January 21, 1832, the son of Joseph and Maria Adams, natives of New Hampshire and Vermont, respectively. The father came west to

Indiana in an early day, where he married Maria Stone and lived until 1833, when they removed to Racine county, Wisconsin, in 1835, where they spent their lives, honored and respected by the whole community. Henry Adams, grandfather of our subject, was descended from an old New England family and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He was a member of and deacon in the Presbyterian church and one of the early supporters of and believers in the principles of democracy, and was a man of strict integrity and highly respected in his community.

Edward M. is the fourth child in order of birth in a family of six children. He attended the common schools in Racine county until his sixteenth year. Being thrown on his own resources at the early age of fifteen years, he started out in life for himself. He was first employed in a sawmill and on a farm and at odd jobs. In 1867 he removed to Monroe county and purchased eighty acres of land in section nine, Ridgeville township, to which he added from time to time until he owned 320 acres. He engaged in general farming, which he has successfully followed to this time. Advancing in years, the care of so large a tract became so great that Mr. Adams has disposed of his land except eighty acres where he and his wife now live in the enjoyment of the fruits of years of toil. He is known as one of the successful and influential farmers of his town, and his place is well stocked with good horses, cattle and hogs, and from his herd of milch cows he derives a handsome revenue. Mr. Adams has been a hard working man all his lifetime and prominent in his community. He has always taken a keen interest in all public matters and has held numerous local offices. He has been chairman of the town board four terms and for three years a school director.

Mr. Adams was married on February 9, 1871, in Racine county, Wisconsin, to Miss Annetta M. Chambers, daughter of John and Rosanna Chambers, natives of New York state and among the pioneers of Racine county, having settled there in 1842. Mrs. Adams is the sixth child in a family of seven children, three of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers were among the best settlers of Racine county, and occupied a prominent and influential place in their county. They died leaving to their family the heritage of an honored name. The death of the father occurred in 1876, and that of the mother in 1868. To Mr. and Mrs. Adams have been born three children as follows: Morton E., born November 21, 1871, A——— J., born September 8, 1873, and Maude, born April 27, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Adams enjoy not only the confidence and esteem of their own family, but that of

a large circle of friends, with whom they often meet and talk over incidents connected with the early days in Wisconsin, and are known to be kind and generous and hospitable in their happy home.

Rudolph Affeldt is a young and prosperous farmer of Ridgeville township whose age dates back from April 12, 1873, when he was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, the youngest of a family of three sons born to Carl and Louisa (Zellmer) Affeldt, both natives of Germany. The others are August, born January 10, 1868, and Julius born February 12, 1870. The father came to America in 1865 and first located in Watertown, Wis. With his parents, he lived at Watertown sixteen years, then moved to Monroe county, Wisconsin, where they purchased a tract of eighty acres which they improved, erected buildings and made their home for some twenty-three years. He then moved to North Dakota where he stays with his son August, the mother's death occurring in 1898; both were devoted members of the Lutheran church; he was one of a family of seven boys and one girl, and Carl, our subject's father was the second child. He was born on October 14, 1828, in Germany. He was married in 1867 and came to Monroe county in 1883; bought an eighty acre tract of land in section fourteen, town of Ridgeville. He was a successful general farmer from the start, and took great pride in making his home superior to any others in the township. His buildings were kept in the best of order and his land in the highest state of cultivation. The residence containing eleven rooms, was built in 1891 and is commodious and modern, and the water supply comes from drive wells by windmill force; the lawns surrounding the buildings are equal to any city lawn and the shrubbery is of the very choicest. While the father was considered one of the best farmers in the neighborhood, great credit must be given to his son Rudolph, who was the main stay of his father until he left for Dakota. Rudolph has never ceased in his efforts to retain and improve the beauty of the homestead, and no other in the county surpasses it. The mother passed away in 1898.

Rudolph has always lived on the home farm and limited his school days to his fourteenth year, devoting all his time and strength to the farm work, and in 1898 he came into possession of the farm and was married on June 6, 1899, in Ridgeville, to Miss Emma Zellmer, daughter of Fred and Amelia Zellmer, who were among the first settlers of Ridgeville township. Mr. and

Mrs. Affeldt have two children, Orville H., born June 19, 1904, and Raymond A., born June 25, 1912.

Mr. Affeldt is a Republican in his political views, and is considered an all 'round good man.

Alexander Allen*, a native son of Wisconsin, was born January 1, 1874, on the family homestead in Wells township, Monroe county, the son and youngest child in a family of ten children, five of whom are now, 1912, living, born to Alexander and Elizabeth (Shepard) Allen. When fourteen years of age, in 1857, the father emigrated from Ireland to the United States and located in New York City, where he learned the tinsmith's trade. He later came west to Wisconsin, and located at Sparta, where for fifteen years he worked as a laborer. He was thrifty and economical and by frugality accumulated sufficient means with which to purchase the "Barker Farm" of 150 acres in the town of Wells. He engaged in general farming and was generally successful, and there lived until his death in 1904. His wife, mother of our subject, survived until 1908 when she passed away mourned by her family and a large circle of friends. They were hind hearted christian people, and members of the Catholic church. He was a Democrat in politics, and took an active interest in the affairs of his party.

Mr. Allen, subject of this sketch, received his education in the common schools of his home town, and remained on his father's farm until he reached the age of twenty years. He then entered the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, remaining in this position until the death of his father in 1904, when he returned to the homestead and assumed active management of the farm. He employs up-to-date methods and is successful in his operations of the farm, being known as one of the most prosperous farmers of his town. Like his father before him Mr. Allen is a Democrat in politics.

Edward Allendorf*, who resides on his farm of 226 acres of well-improved land in section thirty Lafayette township, where he was born December 16, 1870, is a son and the second child in a family of four children born to Peter and Tena (Stark) Allendorf, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States in the fifties and first located in New York City. They later came to Wisconsin and settled in Monroe county where the father found employment on the Canfield farm in Angelo township; here he remained for a time, then purchased the farm in Lafayette township where Edward now resides and

started in to improve the place and establish the family home, but the Civil War then being in progress he entered the service in company D, nineteenth regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers in September 19, 1864, and at the battle of Fair Oaks, May 16, 1865, was taken prisoner and sent to Libby Prison, but soon thereafter was transferred to Salisbury Prison. After the close of the war he returned home and continued operations on his farm which he continued to improve; he cleared additional land, erected new buildings, and there made his home until his death in 1890, at the age of sixty years. His widow, mother of our subject, survived until 1905, when she passed away at the age of sixty years. Besides Edward, the other members of the family are, Fred, Frank and Albert, of Little Falls township.

Our subject was reared on his father's farm, attended the common schools and assisted in the farm work until he reached the age of twenty-two, when he assumed full management of the affairs, which he continued until 1904, when he became owner of the farm. In 1900 he erected a new residence equipped with many modern improvements, such as hot and cold water, gas, etc., he has also built a new silo and made other improvements. In politics he is a Republican, and takes an interest in the live issues of the day.

On September 26, 1900, Mr. Allendorf was married to Miss Lulu Mary Rhodes, daughter of Henry and Emogene (Brackett) Rhodes, pioneer settlers of Lafayette township. Mrs. Allendorf is one of a family of four children. The others are, Harry, mail carrier on rural route No. two, Eva, a teacher at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Arthur L., who died February 5, 1911, at the age of forty-one years. To Mr. and Mrs. Allendorf have been born two children: Spencer B., born August 5, 1904, and Arthur E., born December 29, 1906.

John Allingham was born January 15, 1845, in Ulster county, New York, is a son of Hugh and Mary (Thompson) Allingham. His father was a native of Ireland and in an early day moved to St. Johns, New Brunswick, and afterward moved to the United States, locating in Ulster county, New York, where he resided until the fall of 1865, when he came to Wisconsin, and located in the town of Tomah, Monroe county, where he had previously bought 320 acres of land in section twenty-one. He continued to reside here until his death which occurred in 1891. He was the father of six children, four of whom are now living. His wife, mother of our subject, died in 1858. Hugh Allingham was a successful general farmer during his lifetime. He began life without means

and had accumulated an ample fortune by hard labor and industry; he first worked in the lumber woods of New Brunswick, previous to his moving to New York state, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until he came to Wisconsin. He built his residence in 1865, and his commodious barn later. Some several years before he died he became disabled with rheumatism. He and his wife were members of the Episcopal church and in politics he was a Democrat.

Our subject during his early boyhood was engaged in assisting his father with the work on the farm, hence the education he received was limited. In 1868 in the City of Tomah he was married to Miss Elizabeth Wilson, daughter of John and Jane Wilson, who came early from New York to Monroe county. Mrs. Allingham is the eldest of a family of six children. John Wilson, father of Mrs. Allingham, died in 1884. Mrs. Wilson passed away in 1909. In religious belief Mr. Wilson was a Presbyterian, but afterwards joined the Congregational church, of which he was a faithful and consistent member up to the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Allingham have six children, viz.: Margret, Hugh, John Hamilton, Jane Grace and Bertha. After Mr. and Mrs. Allingham married they lived on the old homestead, and after the death of his father, he acquired by inheritance eighty-two acres of land on which they have since lived. Our subject has made valuable and lasting improvements on the land he acquired, and has on his farm a good, comfortable residence and a commodious barn built in 1902. He is a successful general farmer, and from his dairy business receives a profitable income, and his farm is well stocked with a fine grade of cattle. Mr. Allingham has been treasurer of the town of Tomah for two terms, director of the school board for six years and he and his wife are members of the Congregational church, and in politics Independent.

Andrew Anderson is another good farmer of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, who came to America from Norway, where he was born August 6, 1860. His parents were Salve and Kristna (Nelson) Anderson, who emigrated to this country in 1870 with a family of four children, and located first in the village of Wilton in this county, where the father worked for about four years as a farm laborer and then purchased a tract of eighty acres in the town of Wellington, Monroe county, Wis. Here Mr. Anderson and his faithful wife are spending their last days in comfort and ease, as the result of their early labors. They are eighty-four and eighty years of age respectively. They had a

family of eight children, only three of whom are now—1912—living.

Andrew is what we may call a self-made man; his chances for education were limited when he was young, having attended only the district schools of Monroe county, which prompted him to exercise his best efforts in obtaining a practical knowledge of affairs in general, to which he applied himself diligently and is now considered among the leading citizens of his township. He lived at home on the farm until he was thirty-six years old, and in 1896 was married to Miss Henryetta Willgrub, and their children were Hurbert H., born July 6, 1897, and Edwin H., born June 28, 1898. Mrs. Anderson died in 1899. Just before their marriage, Mr. Anderson inherited from his aunt a farm of eighty acres in section fourteen, town of Ridgeville, which has ever since been the family homestead, where Mr. Anderson lives with one son, since the death of his wife. He is a public spirited man, full of ambition and takes an active interest in the affairs of his town. He is a Republican in politics and has served two terms as justice of the peace of Ridgeville. He is fair and square in all his dealings, and well liked by his neighbors.

Thomas E. Anderson is another native son of Monroe county, Wisconsin, and was born March 2, 1871, to Thomas N. and Mary (Davis) Anderson. The former came from County Wexford, Ireland, to the United States in 1850, and found employment in New York state as a farm hand, where he remained for a time and then came to Wisconsin, where he met and married Miss Mary Davis, of Fox Lake, this state; she was a native of County Wicklow, Ireland. To this union was born five children—three of whom are living. While living at Fox Lake, he purchased a farm of 120 acres in Monroe county, Wisconsin, and in 1850 moved his family to the farm where he made his home up to the time of his death which occurred in 1905. He was a thrifty, energetic man, and in later years achieved a fair measure of success as a farmer; was widely known in his community and highly respected by all who knew him. He was a Democrat in politics and took an active interest in the affairs of his party. In religious faith he was a devoted member of the Catholic church.

Thomas E. was raised on his father's farm and his early life was about the same as the ordinary farmer boy; he attended the district schools in winter and helped with the farm work in summer. By hard work, economy and good judgment, he early laid the foundation for a successful career. He saved his earnings and soon purchased in his own right a twenty acre tract to which

he added from time to time until he is now rated as one of the largest land owners in Monroe county. He also deals extensively in live stock, and his extensive herds of thoroughbred cattle, has caused him to be branded "The Cattle Man of Monroe county." Mr Anderson is careful, conservative and methodical in his affairs, and in all his business dealings is known for his uprightness and fairness. He is a man of fine personal qualities, social and companionable, affable and congenial, loves good comradeship and good cheer, and is loyal to his friends. He is a Democrat in his political opinions, and active in the councils of his party. He is a member of the Catholic church and president of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Tomah.

Warren A. Aney*, a native of Monroe county, Wisconsin, is one of the progressive and prosperous farmers of Cole's Valley, Adrian township, where he is the owner of a 360-acre farm in section thirty-four. He was born April 3, 1870, and is the son of Samuel and Ruth (Gibbs) Aney, natives of central New York, who left the Empire state in the late fifties and came west to Wisconsin, first locating in Racine county, and a short time thereafter came to what is known as the Ridge in Ridgeville township, returning again to Racine county, and after seven years came to Adrian township, Monroe county, where Mr. Aney bought 160 acres of land in section thirty-four, where with the exception of three years spent in Sparta, he has resided for forty-five years. The land at that time was only partially cleared, and the buildings inadequate. In 1870 a modern brick residence was built which has since been kept in a fine state of preservation. A large barn was built the year previous, and as time demanded other out-buildings have been erected. Choice stock is always to be found on this farm, which has been enlarged by our subject by additions until he now has 360 acres of land. Mr. Aney makes a specialty of choice Jersey cattle, Sherock sheep and Durock Jersey hogs.

Samuel Aney, the father of our subject, was born in New York state, January 12, 1828, and still resides with his son on the homestead farm. His wife, mother of subject, died at Sparta, in 1895, at the age of sixty-five years. Samuel Aney is the son of Michael Aney, of German lineage, who came early from New York state, and settled in Ridgeville township and spent his last days in Adrian township, where he died at the age of eighty-two years. Samuel, the father of Warren, has been three times married, and is the father of four children, viz.: Warren T. Herman, who resides in Adrian township; Mary, wife of A. H. Edminster,

of Sparta, and Sarah deceased, who was the wife of O. F. Sias. Samuel Aney had five brothers and one sister who came to Monroe county and settled in Ridgeville township in the late fifties; they were John, George, Jack, Daniel, Jesse J., and Nancy, wife of James Johnson.

January 13, 1892, Mr. Aney was united in marriage with Miss Anna Bredlow, daughter of Louis Bredlow, of Sheldon township, but now resident of Norwalk.

William H. Ascott*, a substantial farmer and land owner in Angelo township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born in this county, July 18, 1869. His parents, William and Jane (McCreary) Ascott, were natives of England and Ireland, respectively, and came to the United States in about 1850, and located first at Schenectady, New York, and later removed to Pennsylvania, where they remained until 1854, when they came to Wisconsin, and were among the pioneer settlers of Monroe county. He had eleven brothers and sisters, only one of whom are now living, namely, Mordica, who resides at Winona, Minn. In 1870, Mr. Ascott moved to the farm in Angelo township, which is now owned by our subject, which then contained 120 acres, with only a small clearing. He made many improvements and brought the land to a good state of cultivation and there made his home until his death, which occurred August 30, 1904, at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away February 22, 1904, aged seventy-two years. They were kindhearted and generous, prosperous in their undertakings, and were held in high esteem by all who knew them.

William H. Ascott is the only surviving member of a family of three children, the others were Mary, who married George Dunbar, and George, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Ascott was but nine years of age when his parents moved to his present farm, and here William grew to manhood. He attended the district school and assisted in the farm work, until 1902, when he purchased the home farm and started on his own account. To the original 120 acres he has added from time to time, until now he has 320 acres. The first barn on the place was built of logs, which was replaced by our subject in 1905, with a frame structure forty by eighty feet. Many other improvements have been made, including a silo with a capacity of 175 tons, which was erected in 1910. Mr. Ascott is engaged in general farming, and since 1910 has made a specialty of raising Holstein cattle, and he also is extensively engaged in raising small fruits. He is recognized as

one of the progressive men of the county, and as a farmer he is thoroughly systematic and up to date in his methods.

On September 19, 1899, Mr. Ascott was united in marriage with Miss Nellie N. Hutson, youngest daughter in a family of nine children born to John and Mary (Mann) Hutson, both of whom were born in Lincolnshire, England. They came early to Wisconsin, and were among the pioneers of Big Creek Valley, having located on the farm now owned by W. F. Parsons, and at the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1907, he was considered one of the well-to-do farmers of Big Creek, popular in his community and beloved by all who knew him. His widow, mother of Mrs. Ascott, survives, and makes her home in the City of Sparta.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ascott have been born three children, Mary N., born August 17, 1900, John W., born May 14, 1904, and Ruth J., born July 26, 1907.

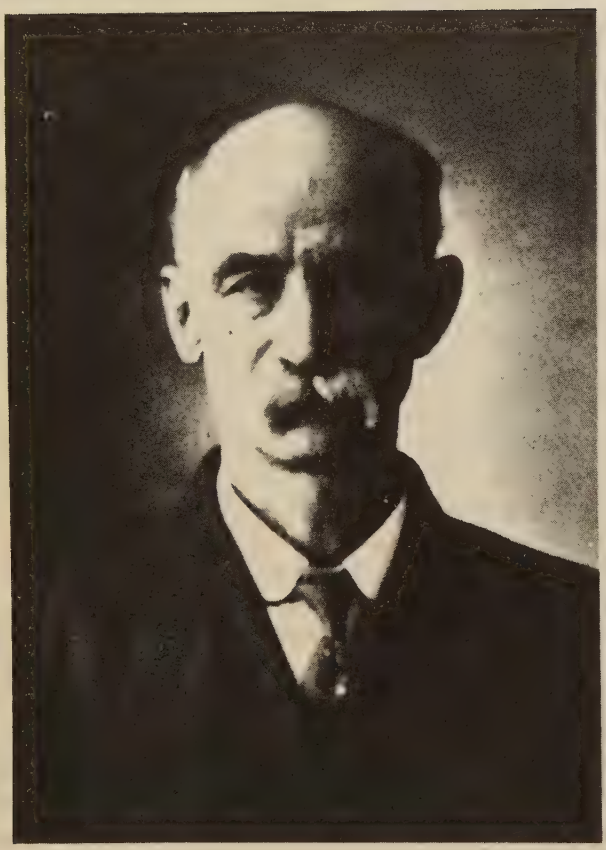
Clifford R. Austin, a native of Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born in Leon township, October 20, 1853. His parents were William J. and Maria E. (Sanford) Austin (notice of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume). He received a good education in the common school, and lived with his parents on the farm until 1880, when he went to South Dakota and purchased a farm of 453 acres. After spending three years there, he sold his land and returned to the old homestead in Leon township and assumed the management of the farm, which he continued to carry on until 1903. He then moved to the tract of land left to him at the death of his father, and remained there two years. In 1905 he purchased the Robert Smith farm of 520 acres which he improved with a handsome residence, substantial barns and outbuildings, and made other improvements which makes his farm one of the model, up-to-date country homes of Monroe county. He is engaged in general farming, dairying and stock raising and is a successful breeder of light and heavy draft horses and short-horned cattle. He was one of the organizers of the Co-operative Creamery Company and for five years has been its president and treasurer; he is also one of the organizers and treasurer of the Sparta Driving and Agricultural Association, which will have its annual exhibit of fine stock early in September of the year 1912.

Mrs. Austin, whose maiden name was Jennie Matteson, was born August 10, 1861, in the town of Leon, Monroe county, where she obtained a good common school education, which was supplemented by one year in the Sparta high school. She is a mem-

ber of the W. C. T. U., and president of her society, which has always been a liberal contributor to the National Lodge at Milwaukee. She is also a member of the Royal Neighbors. Her paternal grandfather, Nathaniel Matteson, was born in Vermont in 1796, and in 1805 went to New York with a family of five children and lived there until the winter of 1858, when they came to Wisconsin, then practically a wilderness sparsely inhabited, and settled in Leon, Monroe county. Alonzo H. Matteson, father of Mrs. Austin, who was born June 24, 1830, preceded his parents to Monroe county one year, and purchased 120 acres of land which, on the death of his father fell to him, and there he reared his family of four children, Mrs. Austin being the second child. He is still living, and for the past few years has lived in retirement, a believer in the principles of the Republican party and a strong advocate of temperance. The grandmother died in 1866, and the great-grandfather of Mrs. Austin, who was one of the minute men under Washington, and who also served in the War of 1812, died August 11, 1875.

On May 5, 1881, Mr. Austin was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Matteson. Seven children have been born to this union, six of whom are now living, viz: Loren E., Winfield W., Clifford R. Jr., Truman A., Kenneth H. and Ruth T. Austin.

Eugene F. Austin, a successful farmer and representative citizen of Leon township, where he was born July 16, 1852, is the son of the late William J. and Maria (Sanford) Austin, who were both natives of Ohio. Eugene F. is the second eldest in a family of five children; he attended the common school and La Crosse Business College, graduating in the commercial course, and resided on the home farm until 1882, assuming the management of the farm. In 1883 he embarked in the mercantile business, opening at that time a general store in the village of Leon, which he successfully carried on until 1907, when the large land interests he had acquired demanded his time and attention, and he disposed of the business. He owns 800 acres in Billings and Bowman counties, North Dakota, and 360 acres of choice Leon valley land, besides several buildings in the village of Leon, including the store building adjoining his residence. For many years Mr. Austin was the manager of his father's lumber business at Black River Falls, and was also manager of the Leon mill. He is now engaged in general farming, stock raising and dairying, and his farm is well improved with a good class of outbuildings which, with his modern eleven-room residence and the up-to-date equipment, makes an ideal country home. In politics Mr. Austin is a



EUGENE F. AUSTIN

Republican, but is an independent thinker on all subjects, and believes in putting only the most capable men in office. While he has never sought nor cared for public office, he has served as town clerk.

On November 8, 1882, Mr. Austin was married to Miss Sallie Ann DeWitt, daughter of Richard DeWitt, one of the early settlers of Leon valley, and Sallie Ann (Thompson) DeWitt. Her ancestors on her father's side are traced to France, while on the mother's side they are traced to the Puritanic stock of Vermont. Mrs. Austin was born at Florence, Erie county, Ohio, March 31, 1846, and is one of a family of four daughters and two sons, all of whom are now living. Her parents settled in Wells township, Monroe county, in 1856, and were among the well-to-do and influential citizens of that town, and held the confidence and esteem of all who knew them. The father died November 17, 1901, and the mother passed away in 1908. To Mr. and Mrs. Austin has been born one daughter, Edith Estella, who, after graduating from high school, took a commercial course at a La Crosse business college, is now proficient in bookkeeping and stenography, and for some time was in the employ of a large department store at La Crosse. She is a talented musician, having had the advantage of some of the best musical instructors in the country, and she is now instructing a class in instrumental music at her home in Leon. In addition Miss Austin has received thorough instruction in the art of hair dressing and has opened a hair dressing parlor at her home, where she serves her many friends and patrons.

Fred R. Austin, progressive farmer, was born in Leon, Monroe county, Wisconsin, December 21, 1873, and is a son of Henry and Isabella (Reed) Austin. He received his education in the district schools of his county, which was supplemented by a four-year course in the Sparta high school. He then served an apprenticeship in a flouring mill at Leon, and for R. M. DeLong, who at that time was operating the mill under lease, from 1897 to 1902, and from 1903 to 1906 had full charge of the mill. He then purchased the old homestead of sixty-five acres from his father in section ten, Leon township, and has since made this his home. He carries on general farming and is specially engaged in the dairy business and supplies a large amount of milk and cream for the town and creamery. He is a busy man of affairs, a director of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of the town of Leon; has held the office of town clerk for eleven years and is now school treasurer. He is a director of the Leon Creamery, and from 1907 to 1909 was its secretary and manager. He is a member of the

Modern Woodmen of America and the B. A. Y. In politics he is a Republican and takes an active interest in the affairs of his party.

On August 4, 1900, Mr. Austin was married to Miss Nora Anderson, of Hillsboro, N. D. Of three children born to them, two, Earl, born March 7, 1901, and Erma, born September 15, 1903, are living.

Henry Austin, father of our subject, was born July 27, 1834, in Medina county, Ohio. In 1848 he emigrated with his parents to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where his father lived and died. In 1853, Mr. Henry Austin left Sheboygan county on foot for Monroe county, where he explored the Leon valley and returned to Sheboygan county, but soon came back to the Leon valley, and for three years worked on the farm of his brother, W. J. Austin. He then purchased sixty-five acres of land which he afterwards sold to his son, the subject of this sketch. He was twice married, first to Miss Lauressa Reed, and by this union there is one daughter, Eleanor, living. Mrs. Austin died in 1871, and he married for the second wife, Isabella Reed, sister of his first wife. She was born December 24, 1850, and by this union there are three living children, viz: Fred R., our subject; Roy and Allyn; the latter two residing in Chicago, Ill. Mr. Austin is a highly respected citizen of his community, and all his life has been a hard working man. By incessant hard toil, he became physically disabled, causing him to retire from active business. Although in feeble health, his mental faculties are unimpaired, and he relates many interesting incidents of his pioneer life in Wisconsin.

William J. Austin, who for many wears was prominently identified with the agricultural and business interests of Monroe county, was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, May 26, 1822, a son of Freeman Austin, a native of Columbia county, New York; the paternal grandfather was a native of Massachusetts, and some of the earlier ancestors took part in the War of the Revolution. They were of English and Scotch extraction. Freeman Austin lived in the county in which he was born until he was sixteen years of age; he then went to Trumbull county, Ohio, where he was married to Elizabeth Johnson, who was born in that county, a daughter of William Johnson, a native of New England. William J. was three years of age when his parents removed to Medina county, Ohio, and at the age of twenty-one years he went to Portage county the same state; he was reared to the occupation of a farmer, and received his education in the common schools and in the academy at Poland. After leaving school he

began teaching, and followed this profession for some time; he took up horticulture, and gave his attention to this business for three years. At the end of this period he went to Rock county, Wisconsin, and embarked in the nursery trade, an industry of great importance to a new country; three years later he went to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where he purchased a small tract of land, and for three years carried on farming. Disposing of his interests at the end of that time, he removed to Monroe county, in the fall of 1851, and entered a quarter section of Government land in the then wilds of the Leon valley. He subsequently added to his orignal purchase until he had accumulated 1,040 acres, which he retained as the home farm and which, by his energy and perseverance, was converted from a wild state to one of high cultivation and productiveness. Soon after locating in the Leon valley, he became interested in the milling business; he took charge of and operated the Leon mill at Leon, which at that time was the largest mill using waterpower in the state outside of Milwaukee. For several years he continued the successful operation of this business, as a custom and merchant mill, in connection with his farming interests. Settlers were few and far between in 1851, when Mr. Austin located in the Leon valley; the three or four families who located at about the same time gradually moved away, leaving him the oldest settler in the valley. In his farming operations his attention was mainly given to the raising of grain and stock, and maintained a dairy from which he derived a handsome revenue. He was also engaged in the mercantile business for many years, carrying on a store in the village of Leon, under the firm name of Tuttle & Austin. For a number of years he engaged in the manufacture of lumber, and operated a lumber yard. The old paper mill in Sparta was built by him and a man by the name of Mather. He was a man of rare business judgment, and with the assistance of his wife, who was also possessed of good business ideas, and her diligence in home matters, was largely responsible for the success achieved. Mr. Austin was a man who always commanded the esteem and confidence of the community in which he lived. He was plain and unassuming in manner and very modest and reticent as to his own accomplishments. Although not a member of any church, he contributed liberally to their support as well as to all worthy enterprises. A Republican in politics he was active in the affairs of his party, was a member of the general assembly of 1880-1881, and in fraternal matters was a thirty-second degree Mason. During the latter years of his life he and his wife did much

traveling, spending their winters in Florida, on the Gulf and in California. His death, which occurred April 30, 1904, was mourned as a great loss to his community.

He was married April 4, 1850, in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, to Maria E. Sanford, who was born at Copley, Summit county, Ohio, a daughter of Benjamin Sanford, of Vermont. Her paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and the mother's maiden name was Margaret Kiefer, a relative of ex-Speaker Kiefer, of Ohio. She died when Mrs. Austin was a girl of ten years; the father died April 12, 1857; they reared a family of three sons and three daughters: William, Aaron, Ransom, Cordelia, Orphie and Marie E. Mrs. Austin passed away April 10, 1901, beloved and esteemed by all who knew her. She was a woman of many domestic virtues and mental attainments, unassuming in manner, modest, of good judgment and untiring energy, always ready to do her part. Her ancestors were of English, French and German lineage.

Ernest Austin, who was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, February 10, 1860, is one of a family of five children, three of whom are now (1912) living, born to William J. and Maria E. (Sanford) Austin, both of whom were natives of Ohio, where their families were prominently identified with the early history of that state. Ernest received his early education in the public schools, which was supplemented by a thorough course of training in the commercial department of the Valparaiso Normal school, and subsequently the law department from which he graduated in 1886, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. The following year he went to Minneapolis, where for ten years he was engaged in the law and real estate business. After a brief visit to his home in 1898, he went to Seattle, Wash., making that place his home for a time, prospecting and speculating. He also visited Alaska and British Columbia, and later spending one year in California, Oregon, Nevada and other Western states. He returned to Monroe county in 1902 and took charge of his business interests, consisting principally of farming and milling in Leon township. He is known as a public-spirited citizen and wide-awake and successful in his business undertakings, and in politics is a Republican.

William Alonzo Barber, merchant, manufacturer, banker; born Saratoga county, New York, January 11, 1843; son of Rev. Bradford K. and Rowena A. (West) Barber; educated in common schools of New York state and Wisconsin; married Westfield, Wis., April 9, 1867, Mary Lawton; children: Fred R., born July

1869, Edith M., born 1875. Was teacher in country schools during winter months and worked on farms during summer months from the age of fifteen until enlisted in army; engaged in lumber business 1874; became partner in lumber firm of George Warren & Co., 1875; business incorporated later and now having added interests, and he is president of the company. In 1891 commenced promotion of inventions of Howard D. Colman; first success in 1896 with Barber-Colman Check Pump for creameries; then the Barber Knotter for spoolers, after that "Barber-Warp-Tying Machine," both now being largely used in cotton mills and popular in the United States, England and Continent of Europe; is not now connected with this company, having retired early in 1910. Partner with Hulbert and Barber "Hulbert Ranch," Meade county, Kansas, in course of development; now president General Store Company, merchants, Warrens, and of George Warren Company, manufacturer and dealer in lumber, real estate, etc., Wisconsin; vice-president George Warren Company, bank, Warren, Wis., and Warren Land Company, real estate, telephone and farming, Warren, Wis. Has served as town officer; on county boards, and as school district officer many terms; member of assembly, Wisconsin legislature, 1882; appointed postmaster of Warren, Wis., under President Grant, 1876, and has served continuously ever since; enlisted for three years in Civil War, March 24, 1864, in company B, thirty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, and served with regiment at Cold Harbor, and near Petersburg, Va.; discharged July, 1865. Republican (Stalwart), Baptist. Director Wayland Academy, Beaver Dam, Wis., and of Wisconsin Baptist State Convention, Incorporated.

Arthur W. Barney, banker, of Sparta, Wis., was born in Juneau county, July 28, 1871, and is the son of Charles W. and Mary Hatton (Davis) Barney, natives of New York and Wisconsin, respectively. Mr. Barney received his preliminary education in the public schools. He began his business career in 1890 as bookkeeper in a bank at Reedsburg, Wis., with which institution he remained until the fall of 1894, when he accepted the position of cashier in the Monroe County Bank of Sparta, and served in that capacity until the spring of 1901, when he became assistant cashier of Bank of Sparta. Shortly afterwards he became vice-president of Bank of Sparta, which position he still retains. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, and a Knight Templar.

On November 30, 1898, he was united in marriage with Miss Kittie Hill, daughter of Ira A. and Mary E. Hill, of Sparta. To

this union has been born two children, viz: Tyler Davis, born January 28, 1900, and Marion, born December 12, 1901.

Gustav Bartels, for many years a prominent and useful citizen of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, is the son of John and Anna (Kicksoer) Bartels, both natives of Germany. He was born March 18, 1860, in Wilton, this county. His parents came to America in 1855 with two children and first located in Wilton township, where the father worked at farming and his trade of stonemason, which he learned in his native country, and with the proceeds of his labor and economy, he purchased a tract of fifty acres in the town of Wilton, which he improved, brought to a high state of cultivation and made the family homestead, and here lived until his death in 1907. His widow still survives, and her wide circle of friends and acquaintances listen with much interest to her many thrilling stories of their pioneer life, for instance: of the days when Mr. Bartels carried flour on his back all the way from Tunnel City to his home in Wilton, in this county, then a small village of only a few houses and one railroad; he also often made the trip up and back the same day with a team of oxen, which he used altogether in place of horses, and in those days their meat was wild game and their neighbors were Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Bartels were both members of the Lutheran church at Ridgeville. Mr. Bartels was full of ambition and ready to assist in every enterprise that could be brought about in those days. He organized one of the first schools in Wilton township, in fact, he was a prime mover in bringing the township to the front as near as could be attained at that time. He was formerly a Democrat in politics, but the latter years of his life, he voted the Republican ticket. They raised a family of four children, all of whom are living in this county.

Gustav was the third child of the family; he attended the district schools until he was eighteen years of age and lived at home. His first employment away from home was as a farm hand at a salary of $12 per month, and after working for a short time in this capacity, he took a position to work in the pine lumber camps in Warren Mills, Wis., but after a short time he changed again, and this time bought a farm in the town of Ridgeville in 1881. Three years later, on September 6, 1883, he was married in the town of Tomah, Wis., to Miss Lizzie Martin, a daughter of Christ and Mary Martin, early settlers of Monroe county and natives of Germany.

Mrs. Bartels is one of a family of eight children, six of whom are living. Her father died in 1890 and the mother still lives

on the old homestead about four and a half miles south of Tomah, at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Bartels have had four children, only two of whom are living, viz: Albert C., born October 13, 1891, and Cora M., born December 27, 1905. Their home farm consists of 150 acres of fine land in sections three, four and ten, town of Ridgeville, where they have lived since their marriage, and is one of the ideal country homes in the county. They have made many lasting and valuable improvements; in 1883, they built their first home; in 1893, built a basement barn, and in 1903 they built a new residence, containing sixteen rooms. A large and commodious granary was built in 1887, and their water supply comes from a drive well 205 feet in depth, besides having several natural springs on the place. Mr. and Mrs. Bartels are both devoted members of the Lutheran church at Ridgeville.

Mr. Bartels is considered one of the most successful farmers in the township, thoroughly up to date in his methods, and is always ready to aid in furthering the interests of his town and county. He is a Republican in politics and has served in various local offices; he was supervisor for some time and has been treasurer of the school board for some eighteen years.

Henry W. Battalia, general merchant of Tunnel City, Monroe county, is a native of the Badger state, having been born in Jefferson county, April 26, 1858, the son of Christian and Julia (Schultz) Battalia, natives of Switzerland and Germany, respectively. More than fifty years ago they came to Monroe county and settled in Clifton township, and were among the honored pioneers of that section, and there lived the allotted time; the father died in 1900, at the age of sixty-five years, and the death of his wife, mother of our subject, occurred more than thirty-five years ago. Their family consisted of six children, Henry W. being the oldest. The others are John, of Oakdale, this county; Anna married J. Bower, of Marinette, Wis.; Lizzie is the wife of C. W. Haase, of Clifton township; Christian lives in New Lisbon, and Amelia married William Pascoe, of Ashland, Wis.

Henry W. was reared on the home farm and attended the district schools. At the age of twenty, he began the carpenter trade and followed that occupation continuously for eight years. He then purchased his father's farm of 200 acres in section four, Clifton township, and for seventeen years was actively engaged in farming operations. In 1903 he moved to Tunnel City and bought the store of C. E. Davenport and conducted a successful

business for four years; in 1907, in company with Andres Brothers, he purchased the general store of W. J. Donald, and for two years the business was conducted under the firm name of Andres Brothers & Battalia, when this firm was dissolved, and William Woodard purchased an interest with Mr. Battalia; at the end of one year Mr. Battalia purchased the interest of his partner and became sole owner and proprietor, which he has successfully carried on since 1910, and has now one of the leading general stores of the county. While interested in farming, our subject often worked at his trade as carpenter and joiner, and built several of the buildings in that section, among them being the St. Peter's church at Clifton, which was constructed in 1897, and later he erected two residences at Tunnel City besides his present residence. Mr. Battalia besides conducting a prosperous business, is the owner of considerable other property, including his store building and others in the village. He is interested in other enterprises, and while a resident of Clifton, was a director and for a time treasurer of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. He has been treasurer of Greenfield township, and is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America and the Modern Woodmen of America.

He was married September 10, 1885, to Miss Anna Grassman, daughter of Rudolph and Rosa Grassman, of Clifton township. They have had three children and the sad misfortune of losing one—Oscar E., who was drowned at Homer, Minn., in 1910, at the age of twenty-three years. The others, Elsie F and Fred A., live at home with their parents.

John Battalia*, who resides on his farm in Oakdale township, was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, September 26, 1859, the son of Christian and Julia (Schultz) Battalia, natives of Switzerland and Germany, respectively. The father came to America some time in the early fifties with his mother and two sisters, and located in Jefferson county, where he resided until he removed to Clifton township in Monroe county, in 1862. He homesteaded eighty acres of land in Clifton, and there made his home until his death. During the Civil War the father enlisted and served with distinction until its close.

John lived at home until 1886 when, in May of that year, he was married to Miss Amelia Heintz, of Oakdale. She was educated in the district and high schools of Monroe county, and for five years previous to her marriage was a teacher. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Battalia, three of whom are living. Julia M., born May 11, 1889; Inez, born November 3, 1890, was

educated in the district and high schools of Monroe county, and in the Iowa State Normal school at Des Moines. After completing her education she was engaged three years as a teacher. She now lives at home. The son, Alfred, was born April 14, 1892. After the marriage of Mr. Battalia he purchased forty acres of land in the town of Oakdale, which he afterwards sold and repurchased 100 acres in section fifteen, and later added eighty acres in section nineteen of the same town, where he now resides. He is a carpenter and for twenty-five years followed his trade, during which time he built many of the fine large barns in Clifton and Oakdale townships. For the past five years he has given his entire time and attention to his farm, and has been successful in its operations. Besides general farming he does an extensive dairy business and keeps his farm well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs.

In politics he is a Republican and takes an active interest in the affairs of his party. He has been supervisor of his town two years, treasurer one term and for twelve years a member of the school board.

Walter Baxter, a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Scotland, November 3, 1842. His father, George Baxter, was born in Scotland, August 5, 1817, and his mother, whose maiden name was Jean Duncan, also born in Scotland, was married December 21, 1841, and emigrated to America in 1851, when Walter was but nine years of age, and settled in the state of Wisconsin, Waukesha county. In 1864 Mr. Walter Baxter came and located in Monroe county, where he has since resided, engaged in farming in Clifton and Glendale townships. In 1865 he enlisted in company A, fiftieth regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers and served about one and one-half years, until receiving his honorable discharge June 12, 1866.

Mr. Baxter is one of the substantial and influential citizens of Monroe county, and takes a commendable interest in the welfare of his town and county, and for sixteen years has been clerk of his town and village.

On October 6, 1867, Mr. Baxter was united in marriage to Miss Margaret McQueen, daughter of James and Nancy McQueen, of Glendale, Wis. Of four children born to this union, but one, Luella, who is the wife of H. W. Smith, of Kendall, is now living.

George G. Becker, farmer and substantial citizen of Tunnel City, Monroe county, Wis., is a native of Illinois, and was born in Chicago, December 29, 1867. His parents were Ignatz and

Mary (Marhoefer) Becker, who emigrated from Germany early in life, got acquainted in Chicago and were united in marriage there, where they made their home until 1895. They then moved to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled in Greenfield township, where they lived until the father died at the age of seventy-four years. His widow, mother of our subject survived four months when she passed away at the age of sixty-four years. They raised a family of nine children, our subject being the eldest. Of the others, Henry is deceased, Charles and Harry are engaged in the grocery business in Chicago, Fred is a member of the police force in that city, Clara is deceased, Ignatz is deceased, Elizabeth Becker (Hall) resides in Greenfield township, Edward also resides in Greenfield township.

George G. received his education in the public schools of Chicago, and early learned the brick mason's trade, which he followed until his removal to Greenfield township, in 1893. He first purchased eighty acres of land in section thirty-four, which he sold three years later and moved onto a rented farm in LaGrange township, which he carried on for a period of three years. At the expiration of that time he purchased a 240-acre tract in section ten of Greenfield township, which he farmed and improved by a high state of cultivation and substantial buildings, and there resided until 1910, when he moved to Tunnel City, where he has since lived. Beginning his operations in Monroe county with a cash capital of $100, he has won success and became known as one of the enterprising and well-to-do citizens of this section; he takes a commendable interest in affairs of the county and any movement which he thinks is for the betterment of the community, receives his support; he is now serving his third term as chairman of the town board, and for two terms has held the office of treasurer of the town. He was married March 22, 1890, to Miss Minnie Krase, daughter of Gustave and Fredreka Krase, of Wisconsin.

Ernst Behrens, farmer, Tomah township, was born in Germany, November 3, 1853. He is the son of Fred and Wehliminia Behrens, also natives of Germany. They came to America in 1867, with a family of five children, two brothers of the subject having preceded them the year before. They located in the town of Wilton, Monroe county, Wis., where Mr. Behrens bought 120 acres of land, only eighteen acres being improved, in section four, town of Wilton, where he lived until he died. He was successful in his early occupation of raising large and profitable grain crops, and thus he was able to equip the farm in first class shape. He

was an earnest, sincere christian gentleman, and a well respected citizen of his community, and a member of the German Reformed church, to which he gave liberal support.,

Ernst is of a family of eleven children, two of whom are living. He received a good education in his native country, up to his sixteenth year, when he came to Monroe county, and attended school but a few months after reaching the new country. He remained on the homestead farm until the age of twenty-three, when he acquired 100 acres of land in section four, Wilton township, which he sold a few months later, and was employed at farm work by his father-in-law for six months, when he returned to the neighborhood of his first purchase and bought sixty acres of land to which he later added sixty more, and here made his home until 1894, when he bought eighty acres where he now resides in the town of Tomah. He built a comfortable house the first year, a barn in 1902, and silo in 1911. His farm has a fine spring which furnishes water for both his house and barn. His farm is well stocked with horses, cattle, hogs, etc.; and he carries on a profitable dairy business, and Mr. Behrens ranks among the successful farmers of Monroe county. He has been trustee of the Tomah Lutheran church for fifteen years, and one of the organizers of the Tomah Creamery, and in politics is a Republican.

October 1, 1876, in the town of Ridgeville, he was married to Miss May Merten, daughter of Chris and Maria Merten. Seven children have been born to this union, six of whom are living: Caroline L., now Mrs. John Sherman; Emma, now Mrs. Herman Mathewes; Ernst, Louis, Fred, Lidia and Elmer, deceased.

George Benson, section twenty-four, Sparta township, a native son of Monroe county, was born on the homestead farm where he now resides, January 16, 1877. He is a son of Charles and Ernstine (Linke) Benson, natives of Stoten, Germany. Charles Benson, the father of our subject, was the eldest of three children, the others, Minnie, the former wife of John Winters, is deceased, and Fred, of Eagle River, Wis. Charles was born in 1832, and came to the United States in 1850, at the age of eighteen years. Imbued with the energy and vigor of his young manhood, he set forth to make his way in the then new country. His first stop after leaving the port of New York was in Chicago, and from there continued his course westward into the then wilds of Wisconsin, of which Monroe county formed a part. Locating first on a rented farm in Bowler's valley. It was two years later that he purchased 100 acres of wild land covered with heavy timber, to which he later added sixty acres more, which embraces

the homestead farm. The first effort toward home building was the erection of a log shanty, nearly across the highway from where the present house occupied by our subject now stands, which his father built over forty-two years ago, and where he died in 1890, at the age of fifty-eight years. His widow, mother of George, is a resident of Sparta. She is the eldest of a family of three children. The others are Fredricka Schmidt, of Eau-claire, and Minnie Zimmerman, deceased, of Chicago. George Benson is the youngest of his family, the others are, Charles W. and John F., of Sparta, Emma, deceased, who was formerly the wife of Charles Jones, of Newlyme township, Minnie, wife of Arthur Jenkins, of Little Falls township, Edith, wife of David Jenkins, of Lafayette township. The paternal grandmother, born in 1812, died in Sparta at the age of ninety-one years.

On December 9, 1903, Mr. Benson was united in marriage with Miss Maude Rowe, of Burns Valley, LaCrosse county, Wis. George attended the district schools of his native township, and has been in possession of the home farm since the age of twenty-one years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is interested in the live issues of the day.

Edward Bergman, a popular young farmer and business man of Norwalk, with property interests in various parts of Monroe county, was born October 11, 1873, in the town of Ridgeville, this county, to William and Bertha (Hass) Bergman, the father a native of Saxony, Germany, and the mother a native of Ohio. Mr. Bergman, Sr., came to America in 1852, and first located in the state of Ohio, where he was married, and shortly afterward moved to the town of Ridgeville and homesteaded an eighty acre tract of wild land in section twenty-eight, which at that time was unbroken and covered with timber and roamed by wild game and Indians. To this he eventually added another forty acres, making in all a farm of 120 acres, and immediately set to work to clear and improve the land and establish the family home, battling, as it were, the trials and hardships of pioneer life. There were no roads of any kind in the county except the Indian trails and a stage road from La Crosse to Sheboygan, and white settlers were scarce; the only means of transportation being either on foot or by ox team. They raised a family of ten children, nine of whom are living, Edward is the seventh child. Mr. Bergman, Sr., was a brilliant and well educated man, was a great reader and kept up with the current events of the day; he was a Democrat in politics and took an active interest in all

public matters, and was a prime mover in every enterprise that might develop his town and county.

Edward lived at home until he was twenty-two years of age and acquired an education in the district schools. His first experience on his own resources was in the threshing and saw mill business; the threshing machine he operated during the summer season and the saw mill during the winter months; he was a faithful worker, economical and persevering, and made a success of his occupation. On October 11, 1897, he was married in the town of Ridgeville, to Miss Alvina Generikow, daughter of Minherd and Amil Generikow; she was the fourth child of a family of six children, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Bergman have one child, Otho O., born October 20, 1909.

After their marriage they moved to Norwalk, in Monroe county, where Mr. Bergman purchased a livery stable, which he operated for a while, then disposed of this and returned to the threshing and saw mill business, which he has since conducted along with other lines most successfully. In 1898 he took a contract to carry the mail on the rural delivery route, and is still holding this position with the Government. In 1899 he erected a modern residence in the village of Norwalk, containing eleven rooms, which he occupies with his family. Mr. Bergman is a Republican in politics.

A. W. Bernett*, a resident of the city of Tomah, was born in Switzerland in 1855, and after the death of his father, his mother left her native country and came to America with her family of children in 1872, our subject being one of that number. After a residence of five years in Bangor, La Crosse county, Wis., Mr. Bernett was employed at farm work, and afterwards engaged in track laying for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, and after a time he took charge of a section as foreman, which position he held for several years. In 1885, he came to Tomah and purchased eighty acres of land in the town of LaGrange, which he now owns and upon which he has made extensive improvements, having in the year 1900, erected a large and commodious barn. Mr. Bernett has since that time resided in Tomah, where he has been employed as a skilled mechanic in the shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, where he is now engaged as a faithful and valued workman. He owns a fine and substantial residence, and is a progressive citizen and is interested in the advancement of his home city and county. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Woodmen of the World.

Mr Bernett was married at Lafayette, Wis., to Miss Barbara Orphwell, and to this union has been born one son, George, born in 1883. He received his education in the graded and high school of Tomah, and has been game warden of the district for one year.

Joseph Betthauser, who lives on his farm of 115 acres in sections thirty-two, thirty-one and ten, Oakdale township, is a prosperous farmer and one of the steady office holders of the town. He is a Democrat in politics and has served the town board for years in the capacity of supervisor, assessor, chairman of the board, town clerk and treasurer and for twenty-four years has been school treasurer and a hard worker in the school interests. He was born June 25, 1858, in Rockboro, Dane county, Wis., the son of Val and Margaret (Snider) Betthauser, both natives of Germany. They came to America in 1856 and located in Dane county, where they lived on a rented farm for about eight years and then moved to Oakdale township, in Monroe county, in 1864, and bought forty acres in section twenty-eight and homesteaded another forty acres which he converted into a highly productive farm and beautiful country home. They were among the early settlers of the county and Mr. Betthauser now lives in ease and comfort as a result of his many years of hard work, at the age of eighty-eight years, and tells many interesting tales of pioneer life. His wife passed away in 1881. They were devoted members of the Catholic church and raised a family of nine children in that faith. Mr. Betthauser helped to build the first Catholic church in Oakdale in 1870, and in 1910 assisted in the erection of the St. Michael Indian Creek church, at a cost of $6,250. Rev. Louis Wurst, pastor; Joseph Betthauser, Seb. Rieber and L. Shie, building committee.

Joseph is the oldest of the family, and lived at home on the farm until he was twenty-two; he attended school up to his sixteenth year, and on November 26, 1884, he was married in Mauston, Juneau county, to Miss Anna Mary Haschke, daughter of Heronimad and Mary Haschke, and they have eight children, viz.: Frank, Joseph, John, Eddie, Otto, Anna, Mary and Louis. Mr. Betthauser bought his farm shortly after his marriage in 1886, and since that time has been continually improving it, so that it is now one of the best farms in Indian Creek. He keeps it well supplied with a good grade of stock, and uses the most modern methods in conducting it. In connection with his general farming, he carries on a fine dairy business, and is considered one of the valuable citizens of the township. He makes a specialty

of raising and breeding Durham and Holstein cattle, of which he has a fine display.

William L. Blake, a well known farmer of section twelve, Greenfield township, was born in Camden, Oneida county, N. Y., September 3, 1848. His parents, Frederick and Emily (Sanford) Blake, who were natives of New England, came to Wisconsin when William was but nine months old, and located in Waukesha county, but soon thereafter moved to Walworth county, where they remained three years, then came back to Waukesha. From there they returned to New York, but again came back and settled in Waukesha county, where they spent the balance of their lives. William L. is the youngest and only surviving member of a family of three children; of the others, Mary married Jonas Stahl, and is now deceased, and Aurelia, the wife of Dr. S. S. Smith, is deceased. The grandparents on the Sanford side were also from New York state. They had a family of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters.

William L. Blake, the subject of this sketch, was raised on the farm and attended the district school. He remained at home until he was twenty-six years of age, when he started out for himself. He went to northern Wisconsin and found employment in the lumber woods. He went next to Iowa, from where he returned after a time to his boyhood state of Wisconsin, and located in 1876 on his present farm containing seventy-seven acres, only seven acres being cleared at the time of purchase. Since that time the soil has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and the place improved with a good class of buildings, making it a beautiful country home. He has always been interested in the affairs of his community, and for some time served on the side board, was assessor for seven years, and chairman of the town board for one term. Mr. Blake is a lover of antiquities, and has in his possession a rare collection of Indian relics. He is known as one of the well-to-do, public spirited, and influential citizens of Monroe county.

On February 25, 1875, Mr. Blake was married to Miss Lydia E. Fulmer, daughter of William and Lucretia L. (Martin) Fulmer, natives of New York state, who came to Oconomowoc, Wis., Mrs. Blake's native place, in 1847. They reared a family of six children, Mrs. Blake being the fourth in order of birth. The others are Wallace W., of Sioux Falls, S. D., Marian, the wife of W. Hatch, of Madison, S. D., William H. resides in Coleman, S. D., Albert M., who died in 1903, and Alfred B. Fulmer, of Dell Rapids, S. D. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Blake are For-

rest L., Ethel M., deceased, Robert O., Carl F., and Frank W. Blake.

Jesse Blake, grandfather of our subject, was born December 14, 1775, in Connecticut, and Marrilla Loomis, his wife, was born May 20, 1775. They came from Litchfield, Conn., to the town of Camden, Oneida county, N. Y., where they spent their lives. Ephriam Sanford, the maternal grandfather, was born August 12, 1789, and his wife, Temperance Dunbar, was born August 13, 1791.

Albert A. Bliss, a progressive and prosperous farmer and substantial citizen of LaGrange township, is a native of Georgetown, Madison county, New York, and was born December 18, 1857, to Eliab and Rhoda (Davenport) Bliss, also natives of New York state, and who were descended from English and German ancestry. Eliab Bliss, was a millwright and spent most of his active life in Madison county, conducting the Georgetown mill. He died at the age of eighty-six and his wife, mother of our subject, died at the age of eighty-two years. Of seven children born to them, five are now living, viz.: Albert A, Charles of New York state, Sarah Jane, widow of George Tripp, of Hamilton, N. Y., Harriet Bliss, and Celestine. Those deceased are Evert and Betsey Ann.

Albert A. received a limited education in the public schools and assisted his father in mill work and was employed on the farm; when yet a young man he came west to St. Joseph, Mich., and later moved to LaGrange township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he made his home with his uncle, Burden Davenport, and was variously employed at farm work for a time and then spent three years in railroading with the Wisconsin Valley Railroad. He then went with the Northern Pacific Railroad, and for several years was employed in the engineering and train department of that road. At the death of his uncle, Mr. Davenport, in 1896, he fell heir to the present farm where he now resides in section seventeen, LaGrange township, and to which he has devoted much time and energy in improving.

Burden Davenport, uncle of our subject, was a native of New York state; in 1855 in company with Amos Greenfield, he came to Wisconsin and located on the farm in LaGrange township, Monroe county, where he built a log house where he lived for some years, when he erected a new frame residence which was his home until his death which occurred in 18——, at the age of seventy-two years. He was one of the pioneers of his township,

and like our subject, was one of the progressive and influential citizens of the town.

William H. Blyton, one of the veterans of the Civil War, and a prosperous and respected citizen of Sparta, was born on October 4, 1842, at Franklinville, N. Y. His father, Thomas W. Blyton, was born in western New York in 1814. The maiden name of his mother was Elizabeth McClure, a native of Cattaraugus county, New York. The paternal grandfather was Thomas Blyton, a native of Ohio. The ancestors of the Blytons' and McClures' were of Irish descent. As early as 1844, Thomas W. Blyton, father of our subject, went to Illinois, but after a short sojourn, returned to New York and resided in Cattaraugus county until 1852, when, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. A. F. Bard, of Sparta, he came to this city, then but a small village, and followed his trade as carpenter in the employ of Mr. Bard. At the end of two years, he sent for his family, who arrived at their new western home in October, 1854. He lived here uninterruptedly engaged at his trade until 1864. On September 13, of that year, he enlisted for service in the Federal Army in Company C, Nineteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He continued in the service until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. Returning home with health much impaired from exposure and fatigue, incident to his service in the defense of his country which left him severely afflicted with asthma on account of which he decided to change his place of residence. He removed to Barron county, this state. He died at Sparta, Wis., July 28, 1898.

William H. was the oldest of a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters; the next in order of birth was Charles W. Blyton. He also was a member of Company C, Nineteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, but on account of disability, was discharged at Suffolk, Va., on June 15, 1863. He returned to his home in Sparta, where he died December of the same year. De Forest Blyton is a resident of Austin, Minn. DeWilton. lives in Barron county; Manley died in childhood; Olive, the oldest daughter, is the wife of A. J. Pierce, of Austin, Minn.; Medora, is the wife of Samuel Finley, and resides at Devil's Lake, N. Dak.; Merissa, is the wife of William Pitts, and also lives at Towner, N. Dak. Mary the youngest, died in childhood.

Mr. Blyton was but twelve years of age when the family came to Wisconsin—in fact they arrived in Sparta on his twelfth birthday. In 1862, when little more than twenty years of age, he also enlisted in Company C, Nineteenth Regiment, Wisconsin

Volunteer Infantry, with his father and brother. He was made Commissary Sergeant of his regiment and was later promoted to Quartermaster-Sergeant, and two years later, on October 22, 1864, he was commissioned First Lieutenant by Secretary Stanton, in the Second Regiment United States Infantry, and was assigned to duty as Quartermaster of that regiment, and served in Virginia until the close of the war, when he, with his regiment, accompanied General Sully's expedition to the western frontier. In October, 1865, he was appointed Post Quartermaster at Fort Randall, in what was then Dakota Territory, at the same time being transferred to the Fourth United States Infantry, serving at Fort Randall until June 20, 1866, when he was mustered out of the service at Fort Leavenworth. The Nineteenth Regiment was stationed at Norfolk, Va., from May 1, 1863, to October of the same year. Was the first under fire at Suffolk, Va.; was on duty at various points on York river, after which it returned to Newport News, where it remained until November. It then went to Newborn, N. C., and was in defense of that place until 1864. The regiment was then ordered back to Yorktown, and assigned to the Third Brigade, First Division of the Eighteenth Army Corps, under the command of General B. F. Butler, and took part in the Petersburg and Richmond campaign. The nineteenth was the first infantry regiment to get into the city of Richmond after the flight of Jeff Davis, and its flag was the first infantry flag that floated from the state house. Mr Blyton has many narrow escapes, but received no wounds in the war of the Rebellion, but during a skirmish with the Indians on December 7, 1865, he was severely wounded by being shot in the left arm, which was permanently disabled, resulting in his discharge for disability. Upon leaving the army, Mr. Blyton returned to Sparta where he was engaged for two years in merchandising. In 1869 he entered the Insurance field, which business has ever since been his occupation. On January 16, 1864, while at home on a furlough, Mr. Blyton was married to Miss Harriet E. Washburn, daughter of William and Harriet Washburn, who settled in Sparta in 1855, where Mr. Washburn died in 1862; his wife, mother of Mrs. Blyton, surviving until 1869. Besides Mrs. Blyton, the members of the family are, Josephine, wife of S. C. Miles, of Prairie Farm, Barron county, Wis.; Clara N., who is the wife of B. L. Spring, and Andrew C., both of whom reside in Milwaukee.

To Mr. and Mrs. Blyton one son was born, Edgar E., born March 12, 1869. Mrs. Blyton died in 1881 and he again married, Sarah E. Burroughs, June 16, 1883.

Mr. Blyton has for many years been one of Sparta's most enterprising and progressive citizens. He has filled various official positions with credit and ability. He has been city clerk constantly since 1870; was supervisor in 1884, representing the second ward of the city; he was elected to the legislature in 1883 to 1885 and again in 1889, holding the office for three terms. Politically he is a Republican. He is a charter member of the John W. Lynn Post No. 30, G. A. R., and has held all the positions of the Post.

James A. Bolton, one of the progressive and wide-awake native sons of Monroe county, resides on his farm of 105 acres in section sixteen, La Grange township, was born in Wilton township, December 29, 1867, the son of Edwin L., and Roseline (Cady) Bolton, natives of Vermont. The original Bolton ancestors came from England; the grandfather of our subject, John G. Bolton, a woolen manufacturer, settled in New York state when Edwin L. was fifteen years of age. They later came west to Wisconsin, and located in Dane county, near Madison, and in the late fifties, moved to Monroe county and settled in the town of Wilton. Edwin L., father of our subject, was a school teacher, which occupation he followed in Monroe county for twenty-one years, and occupied a prominent place in educational circles as well as the general affairs of his town. In 1873 he located on a farm in section seventeen, La Grange township, where he died in 1886, at the age of forty-nine years. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company E, Seventeenth Wisconsin Regiment, and served nine months as clerk and adjutant. His widow, mother of our subject, resided at Tomah until September 23, 1912, when she died. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are now living. (See sketch of W. E. Bolton.)

James A. Bolton spent his boyhood on the home farm, receiving his education in the district schools of his neighborhood; he had nearly reached his majority when he started out to make his own way in the world. He was employed at farm work for six years, and in 1894 leased the Henry Mallory farm which he conducted for ten years in connection with his own farm purchased the same year, which he has improved with a substantial residence, new barn, sheds and other outbuildings. Here he carries on general farming and dairying, using modern methods in his operations, and his equipment is of the latest and up to date. As a man, Mr. Bolton stands high in the confidence and esteem of the community and he is justly counted as one of its foremost citizens. He has devoted his time to home matters, and be-

lieves in the welfare and progress of his community. Mr. Bolton and his estimable wife, who was Miss Lillian Stowell, of Big Springs, Adams county, Wis., and the daughter of Ceylon and Mary Stowell, of New York, were married November 24, 1898.

Westley E. Bolton resides in section seventeen La Grange township, and is one of the leading citizens of the town. He was born in Wilton township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, October 1, 1863. His parents, Edwin L., and Roseline (Cady) Bolton, were natives of England and Vermont, respectively. The father came west to Wisconsin in the early fifties, locating in Dane county, where he remained four years, when with his father, John G. Bolton, he came to Wilton township, Monroe county, and in 1873, when our subject was ten years of age, moved to La Grange township and settled on the farm where our subject now resides, a small amount of which was cleared at that time. The father died in 1886, at the age of forty-nine years. His widow, mother of our subject, made her home in Tomah until her death, September 23, 1912. John G. Bolton, grandfather of our subject, who was born at Leeds, England, died in 1884, aged about seventy years. Harriet Lathem Bolton, his wife, died in 1889, at the age of seventy years. The maternal grandfather of Wesley E. was Reverend Cady, a Methodist clergyman. He died in Greenfield township, and was survived for some years by his wife.

Westley E., the subject of this sketch, is one of a family of eleven children, seven sons and four daughters; of the others, Frederick E., is professor of psychology in the State University of Iowa, James A., of LaGrange township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Herbert E., has chair in history of Berkeley, Cal.; Laura, wife of Dr. A. R. Bell, of Tomah; Dr. Ernest LeRoy, of Chilton, Wis.; Grace is a teacher in the Tomah high school; Edwinnie, wife of Roy Naphus, resides in Iowa; Edmund and John W. and Hattie M. are deceased. Our subject was reared on the home farm and received his education in the district schools. He assisted his father with the farm work until he reached the age of seventeen, when he started out in life for himself. He was employed four years by S. H. Griswold in the lime business in the town of Wilton, and then rented a farm in Wilton township, which he carried on until 1897, then purchased the home farm of 145 acres to which he has since added the Henry Mallory farm of eighty acres, making in all 225 acres which is well improved. His residence, barns and outbuildings are of modern construction and well kept up, and the beautiful country home of Mr. Bolton is indicative of the ambition of its

owner. He is active in the affairs of his township and for the past seven years has been chairman of the town board. He has filled the office of treasurer for one year, was assessor for the years 1904 and 1905, and has also been a member of the side board. He is at present and has been for the last five years, secretary of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance company of Tomah.

He was married at Wilton in 1884 to Miss Willella Hancock, daughter of William and Ellen (Gooder) Hancock, natives of England, and who settled in Wisconsin many years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Bolton are the parents of four children, viz.: Charlotte M., Edwin E., Raymond L., a student at Lawrence university, and Russell B. Bolton.

William H. Boomer, proprietor of the Spring Brook farm, consisting of 110 acres in section 22, Adrian township, is the son of Charles C. and Avilla (Holmes) Boomer, of Tomah, and was born on the old homestead August 11, 1869. The father came to Adrian township in 1865 and purchased the land, which at that time was little less than a wilderness; the parents were both natives of Michigan, and in 1866 they moved to the farm in Adrian and immediately set to work to improve the land and establish the family home; they erected a substantial residence and outbuildings, cleared the land and soon brought it to a high state of cultivation and productiveness.

Charles C. Boomer, father of our subject, for many years a prominent and influential citizen of Adrian township, is a native of Saline, Mich., where he was born in 1834. His parents, Caleb and Mahalia (Barton) Boomer, who were natives of New York state, were among the early settlers of Michigan, where Charles Boomer was reared. When the Civil War broke out Mr. Boomer enlisted on August 14, 1862, at the age of twenty-eight, for three years at Manchester, in Company B, Seventeenth Regiment, Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the service on August 26 of that year, and after faithfully serving his country until June 3, 1865, he was mustered out at the Delaney house in Washington, D. C. Among the many batttles in which he participated was the batttle of South Mountain, Maryland; Antietam; Fredericksburg; siege of Vicksburg; Jackson, Miss.; Wilderness; Spottsylvania; Petersburg, Va., and many others to the number of thirty in all. After the surrender of General Lee his regiment embarked at City Point for Alexandria, Va., and participated in the grand review at Washington. Mr. Boomer is a well-preserved man for one of his years, and lives to enjoy the fruits of his long and busy life, honored and respected by all who know him.

William H. received his education in the common schools, assisting in the farm work during his boyhood. He remained on the home farm with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-six, when he purchased his present farm, which he has since conducted with great success. This farm, as well as its proprietor, is famous for the production of the celebrated prize-winning Brown Swiss cattle, which are said to be among the very best of milk producers in the country, yielding as high as $101 per head in milk and cream per year.

Mr. Boomer occupies a prominent place among the progressive and influential farmers of the county, and takes a lively interest in all public matters pertaining to the welfare of his community.

On June 15, 1899, Mr. Boomer was married to Miss Estella Relief Nelson, daughter of J. C. Nelson, a prominent citizen of Tomah.

George Bradley, who has been a resident of Monroe county since 1864, is a native of Lincolnshire, England, where he was born June 26, 1843. At the age of nine years he became page for John Frankish and was four years in that service; he received 12 cents per day, his duties being to carry mail to and from the postoffice. He was then employed at farming, at about $25 per year, until one year before leaving his native country, when he worked in the city of Lincolnshire, at the end of which time, when twenty-one years of age, he came to America, purchasing a passage ticket from Lincolnshire direct to Fond du Lac, Wis., where he arrived with just $1.50 in his pocket. He immediately set out for employment and was engaged by a farmer to work for $14 and board for one month, at the end of which time he arranged to continue in the same employment for one year for $200 and board, which sum he saved, thus obtaining his first start in the new country. Four years later he left Fond du Lac and went to Waupun, thence to Portage and to Oakdale, Monroe county, and came to Sparta township in 1882 and leased the John Moffat farm, where he resided for seven and a half years, and then went to the John Teasdale farm, where he remained for one and one-half years, thence to the John Youngman farm, now the county farm, which he conducted for four years. He then removed to near the line of the city of Sparta, where he continued to farm on a ten-acre tract, and also took care of the West Cemetery for a period of eight years, since which time he has resided in section 10, Sparta township.

He was first married to Miss Jane Hatch, of Berkshire, England, who died December 8, 1902, at the age of sixty-three years. The children of this marriage are Lizzie, Mary Jane, Louisa,

Georgia and John. His second marriage occurred January 16, 1904, to Mrs. R. H. Rogers. In religious matters he affiliates with the M. E. church. He is a man of genial temperament and one who enjoys his home.

Darwin L. Brainard belongs to that class of sturdy men who, coming to Wisconsin in an early day, have witnessed its development from a state of complete wilderness to a populous community of fertile farms and have taken a part in the wonderful transformation that has been wrought. He is a native of Canada and was born November 17, 1843, to Francis and Harriet (Duclous) Brainard. She was the daughter of Anthony and Mary Duclous, of Vermont, and after marriage removed to Canada, where they resided until 1846, when they returned to Vermont. There they lived until 1853, when they removed to Wisconsin with their family and settled in Monroe county, then a wilderness inhabited by wild beasts and Indians, and endured all the hardships and privations incident to the development of a wilderness into thriving farms. Here they passed the remainder of their lives, the father living to the age of eighty years and the mother to the age of ninety years.

Darwin L. received his education in the common schools of his home town and has been a resident of Monroe county fifty-eight years. He is one of the solid, substantial men of his township, one of integrity and high standing in his community, both as a business man and good citizen. He was married January 12, 1867, to Miss Martha McQueen, daughter of James and Nancy McQueen, of Glendale. To them have been born three children, viz: Ida J., who is now Mrs William C. Keller, resides at Mason City, Iowa; Bernice E., now Mrs. Otis E. Sherman, resides at Aspen, Col., and Jimmie L., who lives at Fargo, N. D. In politics Mr. Brainard adheres to the principles of the Republican party and takes a commendable interest in all matters pertaining to the good of his town and county.

D. L. Brainard enlisted August 14, 1862, at Sparta, under Milton Montgomery in Company D, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Volunteers of Wisconsin, and served to the end of the war and was identified with his regiment in all of its marches and battles, being mustered out of the United States service at Washington, June 7, 1865, by reason of the end of the war.

Fred A. Brandt, postmaster of Sparta, was born at Melvina, in Monroe county, on November 14, 1868, the son of Charles F. and Aurelia (Wilson) Brandt, natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively. His parents came to Wisconsin before their marriage

and were among the early pioneers of the state; the father died in 1895, and the mother now resides in Marengo, Ohio. They had a family of nine children, the eighth child being Fred A., our subject. Six others are living.

Mr. Brandt spent his youth on the homestead farm, attending the district schools of Melvina and later the public schools of Sparta, and after ably fitting himself for teaching he followed that vocation for several years, teaching in various localities in Monroe county. In 1887 he became a member of the Sparta postoffice force, first serving in the capacity of clerk, and was later promoted to the office of assistant postmaster. These positions he held for a period of twenty years, and immediately following the death of Postmaster Dr. D. C. Beebe, Mr. Brandt was appointed by President Roosevelt to fill the vacancy, on August 1, 1908. He was reappointed for the four-year term on December 14, 1908, without opposition, his substantial efficiency so befitting him for the duties of that position.

In 1910 the Sparta military branch office was established, with Mr. Brandt as its superintendent, and on July 27, 1911, the Postal Savings Bank of Sparta was established under his direction, and during his administration, in which he has so faithfully performed his duties, the people of Sparta have enjoyed a most conservative and well-managed postal service. The United States postoffice inspector expressed himself to our subject "That the sales of saving cards and stamps is larger than many larger offices in the state." Since the bank has been established individual deposits were made to the amount of $2,000, and the deposits have been gradually increasing all the time and there has been no year but what the postal savings have increased over the preceding year.

Mr. Brandt is a man of excellent qualifications both in business matters and socially. He has been a member of the Masonic order three years and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for the past eighteen years, and has twice represented the Grand Lodge at the encampment both at Superior and at Janesville, Wis. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

On December 25, 1895, Mr. Brandt was married to Miss Jennie Angle, daughter of Oscar Angle, of Sparta. Their children are F. Percey, Glenn F., Leland C. and Wendell W. Brandt.

Barthol Brandon. Prominent among the farmers of Wells township is he whose name heads this sketch. Born at Hessan, Germany, October 9, 1856, he emigrated to the United States in 1881, and after spending nine months in the city of Chicago he came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and for two years worked at

farming in the Lyons valley. At the end of that time, in 1883, he married Mrs. Martha Matilda Davis, widow of Theron Davis, who was a soldier in the Civil War. In 1862 he enlistetd in Company F, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Infantry, and served until 1863, when he died at Memphis, Tenn. Mrs. Brandon's father came to America when she was eight years of age and spent some time working in the coal mines in Pennsylvania. He afterward came West to Wisconsin and located in the town of Wells, where he homesteaded and purchased 280 acres of land. He was the father of ten children, three of whom—Martha Matilda, second in order of birth, Louise and Adam—are now (1912) living. The father was a thrifty and prosperous farmer, well thought of in the sections where he lived, and at the time of his death was the owner of 320 acres of land. He was a member of the Methodist church, while his wife was a Presbyterian.

Mr. and Mrs. Brandon have a large farm, highly cultivated and well improved, with a good class of buildings, and in his farming operations he uses up-to-date methods and is generally successful. In political opinion he is a Republican, and in religious faith he and Mrs. Brandon are members of the Lutheran church.

William J. Brennan, banker and prominent citizen of Tomah, is a native son of Monroe county and was born October 12, 1876. His parents, Edward and Mary (Gillispie) Brennan, were natives of Ireland. The father emigrated to America in 1849, and in 1860, at Beloit, Wis., he married Mary Gillispie. Eleven children were born to them, ten of whom are now living, William being the seventh in order of birth. His father, a strict and devoted member of the Catholic church, died in Monroe county in 1909; the widow and mother of our subject still survives at the age of sixty-eight years. In his lifetime he followed farming and was an expert gardener and a lifelong Democrat.

Mr. Brennan was reared on his father's farm, receiving his education in the common schools of the county and at the Tomah high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1899. After his graduation he followed educational work, teaching school in winter and helping on the home farm in summer. He remained on the farm until the death of his father. In 1905 he became manager of the Farmers' Coöperative Butter Association, and continued the management of the association, which was organized in 1892, until 1911, when he resigned. In 1910 they produced 690,000 pounds of butter. After supplying the local trade the balance of the produce was shipped to Philadelphia, Pa. In 1911 Mr. Brennan entered the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank at Tomah and

accepted the position of cashier. The other officers of the bank are Thomas Anderson, president, and Rudolph Andres, vice-president. This is one of the strongest business institutions in the county; its capital is $25,000 and surplus $10,000.

Mr. Brennan is a consistent member of the Catholic church and a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Politically he is a Democrat. He was married on June 30, 1909, at Tomah, to Miss Kathryn Costello.

J. E. Broadwell, secretary of the H. L. Stevens Company, architectural engineers, with headquarters in Chicago, has in his career demonstrated the value in the business world today of well-directed industry and energy, for although still a young man, Mr. Broadwell has worked his way to a position of responsibility and trust. His ancestors were of English-French descent. His parents, Horace and Ann Eliza (Perry) Broadwell, were natives of Plattsburg, N. Y., but came to Wisconsin in 1858 and settled at Madison, where J. E. was born on June 9, 1865. At the tender age of one year he came with his parents to Tomah, Monroe county, and there grew to manhood, receiving his education in the graded and high schools of Tomah. After graduating from the last named institution he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and for seven years successfully conducted his farm, located three miles from Tomah. Mr. Broadwell next engaged in the insurance business, starting at first as local agent and gradually worked his way to the position of field superintendent of Wisconsin and Minnesota for the Fidelity Mutual Life Association of Philadelphia, having charge of their interests in the various departments. He later became associated with the Equitable Life Insurance Company and was made field manager for the state of Wisconsin and northern Michigan. Among the life insurance men of the state he held an enviable position by reason equally of his high personal standing and business qualifications. He followed the insurance business for fifteen years prior to becoming interested as secretary of the H. L. Stevens Company, with branch offices in various cities of the United States. So extensive has the business of the company become in erecting reinforced concrete buildings in the United States and Canada that it requires several branch offices, and Mr. Broadwell has headquarters at Minneapolis, working the territory from Milwaukee, Wis., to Winnipeg, Canada.

The father of Horace and grandfather of our subject was William Broadwell. Cyrus Perry, maternal grandfather of subject, was a relative of the famous Commodore Perry.

Mr. Broadwell is prominent in fraternal orders—a member of

Valley Lodge, No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; Sparta Chapter, No. 19, R. A. M.; Sparta Commandery, No. 16, Knight Templars; a Modern Woodman of America, Woodmen of the World and the Eastern Star. He is also a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church.

On November 11, 1886, Mr. Broadwell was united in marriage with Miss Sarah R. Lovell, of Sparta, daughter of the late Carr and Ruth (Wyman) Lovell. Peter Wyman, maternal grandfather of Mrs. Broadwell, was a native of Maine and built the first sawmill at Wilsonville.

Mr. and Mrs. Broadwell have one daughter—Jessie Elberta Broadwell.

Hans Bronson is a prosperous farmer and worthy citizen of Leon township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled there after his marriage. His birth occurred May 16, 1867, in the town of Portland, this county, and he is the eighth child of a family of ten children, six of whom are now living, born to H. and Anna (Stigen) Bronson. His parents were both natives of Norway and left their native land in 1853 for America with a family of four children, two of whom died on the ocean voyage and were buried at sea. Upon arriving in this country they came to Wisconsin and homesteaded 120 acres of land in Portland township, Monroe county, to which he afterward added forty acres, and there made their home and reared their family. Te father was born January 15, 1818, and died March 16, 1910. Mrs. Bronson was born March 1, 1823, and passed away in 1909, loved and respected by all who knew her. In his long and active life he labored under the difficulty of being crippled; still he overcame many obstacles and succeeded in the end. He was an honorable and highly respected citizen, a member of the Lutheran church and in politics a Republican.

Hans Bronson spent his boyhood on his father's farm, attending the district school and assisting in the farm work, remaining there until he reached the age of twenty-four, when on December 31, 1891, at Westby, Wis., he was married to Miss Dora Swenson, daughter of Magnus Swenson. Unto this union has been born one daughter—Edna, born December 4, 1892. After his marriage Mr. Bronson purchased 151 acres of land in section 26, Leon township, where he has since resided, engaged in general farming, stock raising and dairying. He has made many needed improvements; in 1900 he built a modern residence, in 1903 the barn and in 1908 the silo. His artesian well, 285 feet deep, furnishes an abundant supply of pure water, which under hydraulic pressure is carried by a system of pipes 150 feet to the house, 160 feet from the house

to the creamery tank and 50 feet to the street watering trough. Mr. Bronson uses modern methods in all his farming operations, and his well-improved and cultivated farm is one of the ideal country homes of the county. In politics he is known as a progressive Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

George Brooks, a prominent citizen and farmer of Wells township, was born in Morrow county, Ohio, September 27, 1851, son of James and Maria (Hull) Brooks, natives of the Keystone state. They moved to Wisconsin with their family of five children—three boys and two girls—in 1854 and settled in Monroe county. Although James' school advantages were limited and he was practically a self-educated man, the natural thrift and enterprising energies with which he was endowed won for him success and the respect and confidence of his community. He served as justice of the peace for some twenty years, was a strong temperance advocate and was affiliated with the Prohibition party, and was identified with the Methodist clergy. He was born in 1818 and passed away on March 17, 1895. His wife, mother of our subject, died in 1858, and he was married for a second time to Margaret Juliet Morgan, by whom he had seven children.

George attended the district schools until he was sixteen and assisted with the farm work at home. He remained on the homestead until he was twenty-one and then for two years lived with his brother. After his marriage he lived on the old homestead for a time and then purchased a farm of 135 acres in the town of Wells, where he has since made his home, and is considered one of the most successful and enterprising farmers of that town. He has always taken an interest in the affairs of his town and has held many minor offices; he has been treasurer of the town for four years; was also a member of the school board for eighteen years, assessor and overseer of highways, and in politics is a Republican.

Mr. Brooks was married November 29, 1874, at Sparta, to Miss Martha Krotzman, daughter of John and Frederica Krotzman. To this union were born three sons, viz: Phillip E., born March 9, 1876, died March 9, 1905, leaving a wife and two sons; James Ernest, born March 21, 1883, physician and surgeon of Chicago, and George E., born June 15, 1892, now manager of his father's farm.

Arthur F. Brownell, of section 8, Portland township, Monroe county, was born at Sheldon, Minn., November 21, 1883, son of Arthur S. and Phoebe (McKee) Brownell, natives of Michigan and Minnesota, respectively. When Arthur was fourteen years of age

in 1897 his parents moved to Portland township and located on the farm where our subject now resides. The mother, who was a charming lady of many womanly virtues, passed away in 1899 at the early age of forty-one years. The father, who is still living, resides on a farm in Montana. Besides Arthur there is one brother, Philip Brownell, living in Montana, and one sister, Miss Cora Brownell, who lives in Portland township. Arthur was raised on the farm and educated in the district schools of his neighborhood, and since moving to the present farm has resided there and since the death of his mother in 1899 has had full charge of the place. He belongs to the younger class of farmers of his township and is thoroughly practical and up-to-date with his farming operations.

On June 29, 1904, Mr. Brownell was married to Miss Elizabeth M. Shultz, daughter of Gotlieb and Minnie (Preng) Shultz, formerly of Portland township, but now residents in the town of Sparta. To Mr. and Mrs. Brownell have been born five children; they are Arthur G., born May 9, 1905; Ernest W., born June 1, 1907; Mabel E., born April 27, 1909; David L., born October 10, 1910, and Harry T., born August 5, 1912.

John B. Brunner, of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, is one of the representative farmers and substantial citizens of this section. He was born in Hegenheim, France, April 9, 1837. His parents were John Brunner and Anna Rieder, natives of France. In 1852 Mr. Brunner with a cousin emigrated to America and first located in Washington county, Wisconsin, and for two years worked as a laobrer. He then went to live with an uncle at Black River Falls and for six years worked in a lumber camp in that locality. At the end of that time, in 1862, he came to Monroe county and purchased 146 acres in section thirty, town of Ridgeville, where he has since made his home. His farm is well improved by cultivation and substantial buildings, both residence and barns. On his place are two living springs, one hard and the other soft water, which furnish an abundance of pure running water for stock and drinking purposes.

In August, 1864, Mr. Brunner was drafted into service and was assigned to Company H, Third Wisconsin Infantry, and served until June 9, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He saw much active service; was engaged in several severe skirmishes and took part in the battles of Nashville, Tenn., and Decatur, Ala., after which his regiment was transferred to North Carolina and placed under the command of General Slocum, and took part in the engagement of Goldury and Raleigh, N. C. After receiv-

ing his discharge Mr. Brunner returned home and in 1870 homesteaded forty acres of land adjoining his farm. Mr. Brunner has all his life been an active, hard working man, and in addition to his general farming he has carried on a profitable dairy business, keeping a fine herd of milch cows. He is now on the shady side of life and makes his home with one of his children on the old homestead, practically retired from labor.

In 1861 Mr. Brunner was married to Miss Elizabeth Wolf, daughter of Jacob Wolf, of Black River Falls. Of five children born to them four are now living, viz: Lizzie, born August 8, 1867; John, born October 29, 1870; Louisa, born October 15, 1872, and Fred, born October 6, 1874. Mrs. Brunner, who was a kind and indulgent wife and mother, passed away in 1905, leaving besides her family a host of friends to mourn her loss.

Adelbert H. Burdick, who lives on his farm of 120 acres, located in one of the charming spots in La Grange township, in section 28, is a native of Hartford, Wis., and was born August 11, 1862, son of Shadrach A. and Mary Elizabeth (Hart) Burdick, natives of New York state. When a small boy the father came to Wisconsin with his parents, who located on a farm near Hartford, and when our subject was five years of age they removed to Jacksonville, Monroe county, and in the spring of 1868 to the farm where Adelbert now resides, and which at that time contained but sixty-five acres, only ten of which were cleared, and a small house 12x16, which still stands on the place. He afterward built a modern residence to which additions have since been made, and a large and well-constructed barn, outbuildings and other improvements make this one of the ideal homes in La Grange township. The father died February 19, 1909, aged seventy-two years. Ezra Burdick, grandfather of our subject, came to Wisconsin with an ox team and was one of the early residents of Hartford and among the first settlers of that section.

Adelbert H. is the eldest son of a family of four children; of the others Roswell U. resides at Tomah, Alpha is deceased, and Vonnie is the wife of W. C. Stotera, of Montana. Mr. Burdick received his education in the district schools and in the Tomah High School, and when a young man went to South Dakota, where he preempted a quarter section of land and during the six years he was there, in addition to looking after his farm, he assisted in the survey of the country around Devil's Lake and across the river from Sitting Bull. He returned to the home farm in 1889, which he rented for five years, then moved to the

city of Tomah and for eight years was engaged in the mercantile business. At the end of that time he returned to farm life on what is known as the Folly farm, and here built the first silo North of Tomah, and the third in Monroe county. He moved to his present farm in 1910 and has since built an addition to the barn and a silo, King system of ventilation, and a system of water works which furnishes his house with hot and cold water. He built a creamery room and made many other improvements. Mr. Burdick is engaged in general farming and dairying and keeps a fine herd of Guernsey cattle, of which breed he owned and raised the first in Monroe county and has a herd of fourteen full-bloods.

He was married March 3, 1886, to Miss Nina B. Baldwin, daughter of Alfred F. and Maria N. (Tracy) Baldwin, natives of Ohio. They came to Wisconsin and settled near Sparta in the sixties, and were later residents of La Grange township. The father died March 4, 1912, at the age of seventy-seven years. Mrs. Baldwin, mother of Mrs. Burdick, survives. Mrs. Burdick has one sister, Lucelle, who is the wife of J. C. Dunlapp, of Tomah. In religious faith Mr. and Mrs. Burdick are members of the Baptist church, and Mr. Burdick is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Dennis Burke*, of Wells township, who is engaged in farming and breeding blooded stock, was born in the state of Ohio, February 26, 1855, son of Dennis and Bridget (Heely) Burke, both natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1840 and after a time went to New Hampshire, where he spent one year, then moved to Ohio and was employed as a laborer for five years. In 1857, when our subject was less than two years of age, the family came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and located on a tract of wild land in Wells township, which the father purchased from a Mr. Faucett. Here he established the family home and by hard work and perseverance cleared the land and brought it to a high state of cultivation. By working on the farm and in the mills he accumulated sufficient means to purchase more land, and at the time of his death owned 260 acres in Wells township. He was born in 1817 and lived for eighty years, his death having occurred in 1897. The mother, who was born in 1816, lived to the ripe age of ninety-three years and died in 1909. The father was twice married; by his first marriage he had two children. He married for his second wife Miss Bridget Heely, by whom he had two children. They experienced the hardships of pioneer days and lived to enjoy the fruits of their many years of toil.

He was an honorable, upright man and held the confidence and respect of all who knew him. He and his devoted wife were members of the Catholic church.

Our subject attended the common schools and remained on the homestead farm with his parents. He purchased forty acres from his father, which he carried on on his own account, and at the death of his parents he acquired the balance of the homestead and is now the owner of 200 acres of highly cultivated land, well improved with a good class of buildings. He is successfully engaged in general farming and dairying and breeds and deals in Percheron horses, Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a stockholder and director in the Melvina Creamery Company and a stockholder in the Sparta Fair Association. He has been a member of the board of supervisors for three years and is now school clerk for the town of Wells.

Mr. Burke was married February 10, 1880, at Tomah, Wis., to Miss Helen Sullivan, daughter of Dennis Sullivan. They have a family of ten children, viz: Daniel P., born January 21, 1881; Dennis J., born February 21, 1882; Mary E., born May 15, 1884; Delia A., born April 1, 1885; Margaret, born May 17, 1886; Timothy H., born January 24, 1887; John J., born February 12, 1890; Florence, born March 29, 1891; Cornelius, born February 22, 1892, and William L., born May 10, 1893. In religious faith Mr. and Mrs. Burke are members of the St. Mary's Catholic church.

Lee Canfield, president of the Sparta Iron Works. There are men of such broad minds, wide information and wonderful tact that by husbanding their forces and planning their various enterprises with something like military precision they are enabled to accomplish splendid results in different walks of life. Gifted with natural ability, Mr. Canfield has devoted his talent to the iron business, in which he has gained a prominent place. He is a product of Sparta, Wis., born June 15, 1873, and the son of Edward and Abigail (Goodwin) Canfield, natives of Connecticut. In the late forties they came to Monroe county and first located at Angelo, where the father farmed and later run a grist mill, and still later conducted a store. He became one of the most prominent and influential men of the county and did much for its advancement, and was at one time a director in the Bank of Sparta. He was born in 1822 and died at Sparta in 1903. Mrs. Canfield was born in 1831 and died in 1909, aged seventy-eight years.

The subject of this sketch bears the name of his grandfather,

Lee Canfield, who was also a native of Connecticut and a prominent iron manufacturer in New England, and it was he who built the first car wheels for the Housatonic railway. Mr. Canfield received his education in the public schools of Sparta and early became interested in the iron business. In 1872 the Sparta Iron Works was originated by L. M. Newbury and conducted by him for a number of years, when in 1894 a stock company was formed and the business incorporated. The ownership and management was taken over by the Canfield brothers and others in 1897; the corporation now has a cash capital of $40,000. They manufacture well-drilling machinery, which is sold throughout the United States and Canada and points in South America. This is the largest manufacturing institution in Sparta, and the present officers are: Lee Canfield, president; George D. Dunn, vice-president; Robert Canfield, secretary and treasurer.

In September, 1894, Mr. Canfield was married to Miss Sadie, daughter of John L. Mather, of Sparta. They have two children —Josephine and John Canfield.

Fraternally Mr. Canfield is a member of the Knights of Pythias order.

Robert Canfield was born at Sparta, May 22, 1875, and was educated in the public schools and Beloit College. He became a member of the Sparta Iron Works in 1896, and is its present secretary and treasurer. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias order and the Modern Woodmen of America. In June, 1899, he married Miss Mary Elizabeth Lee, daughter of W. F. Lee, of Sparta. Their children are Lee Goodwin, Robert Raymond and William Frederick Canfield.

Andrew J. Carnahan, retired, is descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry and was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, January 7, 1842, the sixth child in order of birth in a family of twelve children; those besides our subject who are now living are: Elizabeth, wife of Charles Madison, of Newell, S. D.; Nancy, widow of DeLos Henry, of Fingle, N. D.; James M., who makes his home in California; Joseph H., of Black River Falls, Wis., and William, who lives at Wittenberg, Wis. Those deceased are: Archibald, Adam H., Maggie, formerly the wife of Charles Trumley; Jane, former wife of Adam Ringer, and two who died in infancy. James and Rosanah (McCormick) Carnahan, parents of our subject, who were natives of Pennsylvania, came to Wisconsin in 1856 and were among the pioneer settlers of Little Falls township, Monroe county, where he spent the balance of his life. He was one of the sturdy and well to do citizens of the county and

a kind and obliging neighbor. In politics he was known as a war Democrat. He was the son of Andrew Carnahan, also a native of the Keystone state. He lived to the age of sixty-nine years and died in 1876.. His widow, mother of our subject, survived until 1881, when she passed away at the age of seventy-one years. Our subject's maternal grandfather was Archibald McCormick, a native of Pennsylvania and an influential citizen of Sandy Lake.

Andrew J. Carnahan was reared on the family homestead, receiving a common school education. After leaving home his first undertaking on his own account was at lumbering in the woods of Wisconsin, where he remained two years prior to his enlistment on August 26, 1862, as private in Company G, Tenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered into the service August 28 and served with his regiment until 1864, when he was transferred to Company C, Twenty-first Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and served thusly until the close of the war in 1865. He saw much service and was in many of the sanguine engagements of the war, among them being the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and was with Sherman in his campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta and north through the Carolinas. After being mustered out of the service he returned to Wisconsin and again became engaged in lumbering on the Black river, Morrison creek, and for four years on the Embarrass river. He had three brothers who also took an active part in the Civil War. Adam served in Company C, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, and was wounded at Cold Harbor; Archibald served in Company G, Tenth Regiment, and was wounded at Perryville, Ky., and James served in the Third Wisconsin Cavalry. In 1876 Mr. Carnahan located in section 29, Little Falls township, and engaged in farming, which he successfully followed until 1892, when he moved into Sparta, where he has since made his home. He is an active worker in the Republican party and has been called upon to fill many official positions. He was assessor of Little Falls township two years, served as member of the board of supervisors for many years, and for six years was chairman of the board. As deputy sheriff he served for two years under D. M. Fulmer and two years under Henry Coomes. In the fall of 1899 he was elected sheriff of the county and filled the office during the years 1900 and 1901 and has served as alderman from the second ward for six years.

Mr. Carnahan was first married in 1869 to Miss Frances Dunham, of West Salem, Wis., who died in 1873. He was married for the second time on April 1, 1876, to Miss Axa Wilson, daughter

of Charles and Adeline (Bartlett) Wilson, natives of New Hampshire, of French and German origin. They came to Monroe county in 1856 and located in Little Falls township, where they were considered among the best class of pioneer settlers. Mrs. Wilson died in 1886 at the age of fifty-four years, and he is still living and active at the age of eighty-three. Mr. and Mrs. Carnahan have one son, Charles C., who is cashier of the First National Bank of Fingle, N. D. Those deceased are Irving, who died in 1893 at the age of seven years, and Estella May, who was the wife of George Hewitt, of Sparta. Her age was twenty-six. She died April 7, 1903. She left one daughter, Estella Berneice Hewitt. Mr. Carnahan is a member of John W. Lynn Post, G. A. R., a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

Anton Chapiewsky, who lives on his farm of 217 acres in section 17, Portland township, where he was born October 9, 1875, is one of the prosperous and wideawake farmers of Monroe county. He is the son of Albert and Mary (Mashak) Chapiewsky, natives of Poland, who came to the United States over fifty years ago and settled in Portland township, Monroe county, on the farm now occupied by our subject, which at that time was all wild, timbered land. This he cleared, erected buildings and engaged in general farming and raising of standard-bred stock.

Bartle Mashak, maternal grandfather of Anton, came to the United States many years ago and was one of the pioneer settlers of La Crosse county, where he spent his life. Joseph Chapiewsky, paternal grandfather of our subject, also came to La Crosse county in an early day and spent the remainder of his life there.

Our subject is the fourth child of a family of nine children; the others are John, Josephine, wife of Louis Peplinsky, both residents of Portland township; Frank, of Cashton; Katherine, wife of August Michel, of Portland township; Mary, wife of Joseph Wunsch; Albert; Louis and Clara, wife of Otto Kumm, all reside in La Crosse county.

Anton Chapiewsky attended the common schools of his native town, was reared on the farm, where he assisted his father until he was thirty-one years old, when he leased the farm in 1906 and commenced operations on his own account. He was successful and in 1910 purchased the homestead where he is now engaged in up-to-date farming and stock raising. His residence, barns and other outbuildings are well constructed and commodious, and with his other improvements he has a model farm home.

On September 13, 1905, he was married to Miss Minnie Kumm,

daughter of Carl Kumm, of La Crosse county. They have one child, Esther A., born June 2, 1909.

In religious belief Mr. and Mrs. Chapiewsky are members of St. Peter's Catholic church of Middle Ridge.

David D. Cheney. While not one of the earliest residents of the city of Sparta, David D. Cheney came here early enough to be unseparably connected with the growth and development in all lines of industry which marked the period from the Civil War on. Mr. Cheney was born in Scioto valley, Ohio, January 19, 1822; his father was a native of New Hampshire and the family one of the oldest in the state, his mother being a native of Vermont. The family moved to Scioto valley, Ohio, and from there returned to western New York, from which they later moved to Girard, Erie county, Pa., in 1835; subsequently the father and David D. started west in a one-horse wagon, arriving in Franklin, Milwaukee county, Wis., April 1, 1837, which was the earliest of the pioneer days in Wisconsin. At this time David D. was fifteen years of age, and as no schools had as yet been established in this state his father determined to send him back to New York to get an education. He supplied David with $10 and the latter started his return trip; upon arriving in Chicago, from which place he intended to take a steamer to Buffalo, he found that, owing to the lateness of the season, no boats were running; he had but two alternatives, to continue on foot or to return to his father in Wisconsin; he chose the former and went to Adrian, Mich., where he had an uncle; his entire capital when he left home being only $10, it was necessary for him to work his way, which he did, as it was the season of husking corn and he found plenty to do on the route and in that way paid his expenses. Arriving at Adrian he went by rail to Toledo, where he engaged to work his passage on the steamer George Washington, but owing to an unfavorable wind they could not make the landing until they reached Dunkirk; from the latter place he continued to Girard, Pa., on foot. He attended school the following winter. The entire Cheney family eventually located in Waukesha county, where the father made a homestead and where he lived until his death, which occurred in August, 1869, at an age of nearly ninety years.

The father was a "Free Will" Baptist and one of the pioneer ministers for over seventy years, yet received no salary for his services. There were ten children in the family, of whom six sons and two daughters arrived to mature years.

David D. Cheney was married to Miss Martha Ryan, of Mil-

waukee, February 22, 1842. In 1847 he went to Milwaukee and from there to the town of Chester, Dodge county, from which place he removed to St. Marie, Marquette county, thence to Stevens Point and later on to Fox Lake, in Dodge county in 1853. The following year he removed to Black River Falls, returning three years later to Fox Lake; later in 1850 he traced his way back to Black River Falls and three years afterward located at Sparta; his wife died on March 16, 1869, and two years afterward, January 1, 1871, he was married to Mrs. George Darringer. He had four children by his first marriage—Emily, who died in infancy; Marvin H., who died at the age of ten years; Lydia Ann, wife of N. J. Kemp, now of Minneapolis, Minn., and David W., of Sparta.

Mr. Cheney was one of the most successful business men in the City of Sparta, at various times engaging in different enterprises, at one time being employed in the mercantile business and also as a grain dealer and lumber merchant. Later he became interested in banking. He built two large warehouses and a number of dwellings and was one of the most enterprising citizens in the city. In earlier days Mr. Cheney voted with the Abolitionists and subsequently became a Republican, but as issues changed he voted for the party whose principals seemed to him right. He was opposed to the saloon in all its forms. He held various official positions in the gift of the people and in 1870 was elected to the legislature of the state of Wisconsin on the Republican ticket. He served as chairman of the county board for several terms and also as president of the village and village treasurer before Sparta became a city, besides serving on the school board.

David D. Cheney was one of the best known and highly respected citizens of Sparta, and socially was one of the most genial and companionable of men, firm in his convictions and positive in his character, yet he was a man of broad and tender sympathies, ever extending aid to the needy and encouraging deserving enterprises, he was generous yet unostentatious. A man of sterling character, right principles, clear headed and progressive, he was a man among that great body of men who have done so much to make the state of Wisconsin what it is.

He died at Biloxi, Miss., where he was spending the winter with his family on February 16, 1904, from paralysis.

Milliam Christopherson, for many years a resident of Monroe county, was born in Norway, October 1, 1845, a son of Gilbert and Carolina Christopherson, natives of Norway. They emi-

grated to America with a family of four children and settled in the Cannon valley, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where the father worked as a farm laborer for some time and in 1872 homesteaded 120 acres of land in Pleasant valley, where he established the family home and still resides. The mother, a devoted wife and an indulgent mother, died in 1911, honored and respected by her wide circle of friends.

Milliam Christopherson is the second child in a family of eleven children born to his parents; he attended the district school up to his fourteenth year and assisted in the farm work. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-three, when he and his brother Peter purchased 240 acres. Three years later they divided this farm, subject taking eighty acres for his portion in Pleasant valley, where he and his family reside. In 1910 he purchased forty-six acres additional. He carries on general farming, stock raising and dairying, and keeps his farm well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs. He is an enterprising, energetic and progressive man, and takes pride in keeping his farm up-to-date and well supplied with modern labor-saving devices.

He was married May 6, 1890, to Miss Sophia Oleson, by whom he has had six children, viz: Inga, a student in Sparta High School, Glenn, Mable, Arthur, Clarence and Everett. Mr. Christopherson with his estimable wife are members of the Lutheran church and he affiliates with the Republican party.

John Clements*, a progressive farmer of Portland township, is a son of John P. and Rosenia (Hise) Clements, who were natives of France and Holland, respectively. His father came to America with his parents when he was nine years old and settled at that time near Milwaukee, Wis. The mother came to the United States with her parents when she was thirteen years of age, and they also settled near Milwaukee. When a boy the father, John P., was employed at farm work and later came to La Crosse county, where his brother Nicholas was located. He afterward went to Rock county, Wisconsin, making the trip on foot; there he secured employment and saved sufficient means for a start in life, and returning to La Crosse county, purchased a farm, which he afterward sold, and purchased another, which he partly cleared, and again sold out and moved for a time to Chippewa Falls, Wis., where he was engaged in toting on the Thornapple river for several winters. Some time in the sixties he moved to Portland township and purchased a farm of 160 acres in section 8, now owned and occupied by our subject. At the time he pur-

chased this tract there was but fifteen acres under cultivation. He erected nearly all the buildings now standing, including a solid stone house; only two others of a similar kind were built in this township. He cleared ninety acres, and here with his wife, whom he married near Milwaukee, made their home and reared their family and followed the busy life of farming until the death of the father, which occurred December 26, 1910, in his seventy-third year. The death of the mother occurred in 1903 at the age of sixty-four years. He was a member of the town board and the school board for several years, was a successful farmer, a liberal and broad-minded citizen. Eight children were born to them, viz: Henry, who lives in the town of Leon; Mary is the widow of John Gother, of Jefferson township; Kate, formerly the wife of John Algray, of Leon, is deceased; Rosa, wife of John Taylor, of Ladysmith, Wis.; our subject; Peter, of Cashton; Louisa, and Anna, who is a teacher, are residents of Portland township.

John Clements attended the district schools of the neighborhood and was reared on the home farm. He began farming on his own account with his brother, Peter, and together they ran a threshing machine and lumber-saw for ten years. Disposing of his interests to his brother, John took up the management of the home farm in 1907 and has since cleared ten more acres and is conducting successful farming operations.

In November, 1905, Mr. Clements was united in marriage with Miss Kate Smenk, daughter of Albert Smenk, of Monroe county. They have a family of four children, viz: Sylvester A., Rosenia M., Clarence P. and Clement F. With their family Mr. and Mrs. Clements attend St. Peter's Catholic church of Middle Ridge.

Ben Cole, the genial and popular proprietor of the Park hotel, of Sparta, is a native son of Wisconsin. He was born in Vernon county on June 3, 1861, to Benjamin and Elsie (Wyman) Cole, both natives of New York state, where they were married in 1858, and the same year came to Wisconsin and located on a farm near Baraboo. At the breaking out of the Civil War he was among the first to offer his services in defense of his country and in 1861 enlisted as a private in Company F, Sixteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and after serving with distinction the term of his enlistment he re-enlisted and participated in many important engagements, receiving wounds at Pittsburg Landing and in other battles, from the effects of which he died on his way home. He was a brave soldier, a loyal citizen and

enjoyed the friendship and esteem of his community. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Ezra Wyman, was a native of the empire state and came to Wisconsin in an early day, locating in Sauk county, where he followed the trade of a shoemaker. He was a prominent citizen, and with his wife, whose maiden name was Emily Seymour, daughter of a prominent New York family, was highly esteemed by a wide circle of friends.

Ben Cole is the second child and only surviving member of a family of three children. Of the others Rosa and Edgar W. are both deceased, the latter meeting his death in a railroad accident October 1, 1888, in his twenty-second year. Our subject received his education in the common schools and at the age of nineteen began railroading, which occupation he followed for ten years. He then engaged in the pump business, selling his wares throughout the counties of Adams, Washara and Portage, meeting with universal success. His next venture was at farming in Lincoln township, Monroe county, and remained thus engaged for two years and then became proprietor of the Hotel Warren at Warren. Continuing there for three years, he sold his interests and moved to Black River Falls, where he took charge of the Merchants' hotel and remained for the next three years. He then returned to Sparta and in the fall of 1910 became the proprietor of the Hotel Sparta, conducting the last named hotel until December, 1911, when he opened the boxball alley on North Water street. Disposing of this enterprise in 1912, he again embarked in the hotel business, this time as proprietor of the Park hotel at Sparta, March 20, 1912. Mr. Cole is a thorough hotel man and popular with the traveling public.

On April 22, 1885, Mr. Cole was united in marriage with Miss Emma J. Townsend, daughter of Louis and Helen (Benton) Townsend, of Union Center, Wis. They have six children, viz: Archie B., Ruby I., Elwin R., Lulu, Glenn and Lester.

Mr. Cole has taken a lively interest in fraternal matters—was president of the local lodge of C. M. B. A. at Valley Junction, leading officer in the local lodge M. W. of A, and Venerable Council. While a resident of Union Center and while at Warren he was local president of the M. B. A. and also a leading officer in the Beavers. He was local president of the Eternal Reserve Association at Ashland while he was a resident of Black River Falls.

Edward C. Cole*, who resides on his farm in sections 28 and 33, Adrian township, is the son of Charles Cooper and Celista (Sawyer) Cole natives of Ohio, and New Hampshire, respectively.

Charles Cooper Cole was born July 9, 1829, and died September 20, 1876. He was the son of David Cole, a native of the Mohawk valley in New York state, who came to Wisconsin and was one of the first settlers in Adrian township, Monroe county, for whom Cole's valley was named. He was one of the most prominent and well-to-do citizens of Adrian township, and took an active interest in the local affairs of the town. He built what was known as the Yankee tavern, which he ran for several years, and was an experienced and well-known eye specialist. He was an extensive land owner, and sold five forties of land to the county for the Monroe county poor farm, which was located in Adrian township prior to its removal to the town of Sparta. He was honorable and upright in all his dealings and held an enviable position in his community, and was highly respected by all who knew him. After a residence in this county for many years, he in later life removed to Eau Claire county, where he died. Charles Cole, father of our subject, came to Wisconsin in 1866, locating in Adrian township on the farm where our subject now resides, and was married in 1867 to Miss Celistia Sawyer. They were among the prominent settlers of the town, and died honored and respected by the whole community.

Edward C. Cole was born on the farm where he now resides, September 18, 1869. He had one brother, Elmer, who is now deceased. His education was received in the district school of the neighborhood, and after the death of his father he removed with his mother to the city of Tomah, and when a young man was employed in the Central hardware store for a period of ten years, and afterward became a member of the drug firm of Banks & Cole. In 1893 he went to San Antonio, Texas, and remained there until 1898, when he went to Chicago, Ill., and spent two years. In 1903 he returned to Monroe county and the homestead farm, consisting of six forties in Adrian township, where he has since resided, engaged in general farming. He is considered one of the progressive, up-to-date farmers of the town, and besides his farming operations he takes an active interest in the affairs of the town and has been a member of the township board.

On June 15, 1901, Mr. Cole was married at Chicago to Miss Sarah McGavin, daughter of James and Mary (Farley) McGavin, natives of Scotland and Ireland, respectively. Mrs. Cole has one brother, ex-Congressman McGavin, who is now a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.

John J. Collins, Glendale, Monroe county, Wis., was born in the city of Boston, Mass., Oct. 10, 1855. His parents, Michael and Catherine (Dwyer) Collins, were both natives of Ireland and came to the United States in 1845 with their family of two children. He was first employed as a teamster and after a few years spent in the East came to Wisconsin and was in the employ of the Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad as traveling freight agent until 1860. In that year he came to Monroe county and purchased 120 acres of land in section 1, Glendale township, and there spent the balance of his life, his death occurring in 1880. He was one of the early settlers of Glendale and experienced the hardships of the pioneer days. He cleared and subdued his wild land and brought it to a good state of cultivation. He was a hard working man and was highly respected in his community. He was a devoted member of the Catholic church and contributed liberally to its support, and in his lifetime helped to organize and build up two or three churches. The mother of our subject is still (1912) living at the advanced age of 100 years. They had a family of seven children, only two of whom are living—John J. and William. One son, James, served three years in the Civil War in the Tenth Wisconsin Regiment.

John J. attended the district school until he was eighteen and after the death of his father lived on the farm with his mother and sister, which he acquired by inheritance and has never left the home place. Since acquiring the farm Mr. Collins has added many valuable improvements. He built a large brick residence in 1902 and a barn in 1896. He keeps his place well stocked with horses and cattle and carries on general farming. For many years he gave his special attention to the raising of sheep, but of late years has turned his attention to dairying and raising Holstein cattle. Mr. Collins has for fourteen years in connection with his farming interest been engaged in the buying and selling of cattle. He is a good judge of stock, has been successful in that line of business, and is one of the public spirited and influential men of his town, and takes a keen interest in all public matters. He organized and was president of the first creamery in Glendale township, run as the Coöperative Creamery Company, which wound up its affairs in 1910. He has since helped to organize the Glendale Coöperative Company and is its president. In politics he is a Democrat and an admirer of Senator LaFollette.

He was married February 14, 1881, at Union Center, Wis., to Miss Mary Gallagher, daughter of Edward and Kathern Gallagher,

of Glendale, who were also natives of Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs. Collins have been born five children—Michael, Edward, John, Mary Pearl and Charles.

Henry Coome*, ex-sheriff of Monroe county, is a native of New York state; he was born in Cayuga county on February 8, 1842. His parents were Robert and Mariah (Harris) Coome, who came from England to America in an early day and located in the above named county. He had learned the carpenter and builder's trade from his father in England, and after coming to the United States followed that occupation in New York for about fifteen years. In 1856 they came West to Wisconsin and settled in Sauk county, where he continued his operation as a carpenter until he secured a farm of wild land, which he subdued and brought to a high state of cultivation; here he made his home engaged in general farming until 1867. Purchasing a farm of eighty acres in Monroe county, he moved hither and for the next twenty-five years this was the family home. Disposing of this farm, the father moved to St. Paul, Minn., where he died in 1903; his widow, mother of our subject, survived him five years and passed away in 1908. Both were Christian people and devoted members of the Methodist church, and were among its most generous and faithful supporters. Mr. Coome was a man of genial nature, loyal to his friends, liberal with his money, companionable, a lover of good comradeship and generous to a fault. In politics he was a Whig and strong anti-slavery man.

Mr. Henry Coome received his early education in the district schools of Sauk county, which he supplemented with a course at the Baraboo high school. He remained at home assisting with the farm work until he was twenty-two years of age, when on April 1, 1864, he was married to Miss Eliza Watson at Baraboo, and they had one daughter, Lotta, who is now deceased. In 1867 Mr. Coome came to Monroe county and engaged in general farming and stock raising; he later made a specialty of buying stock for the market, and was at one time one of the largest shippers from this county to the Chicago markets. He continued in this line of business until 1886, and then turned his exclusive attention to farming, which he followed until 1897. He is indeed a man of ambition and energy, and worthy of mention in the history of Monroe county; he is interested in all public improvements, ever ready to do all in his power for the good of the community, and while not a politician, he has taken an active interest in the affairs of the Republican party, and in 1897 was its candidate for sheriff, being elected over

his opponent by a handsome majority. Assuming the duties of that office he moved with his family to Sparta where they remained during his service in office, and upon the expiration of this term he returned to Tomah and retired from active business.

Mr. Coome is a man of thorough business qualifications, generous, kind-hearted and popular in the circles in which he moves; he is an active member in the Knights of Pythias lodge, has filled all the chairs of the order and is now master of the exchequer; is also prominent in the uniform rank of the order and has attended its convocations at various points of the United States. Shortly after assuming the duties of sheriff of the county, he experienced the sad misfortune in the death of Mrs. Coome which occurred in 1898. He was married for the second time to Mrs. Ada Hall, daughter of James Sweet.

Fred H. Crossette, one of the enterprising, wide-awake and progressive business men of Tomah, is a native son of Wisconsin. He was born at Ridgeville, Monroe county, December 11, 1859, the son of Z. H. and Jane (Davis) Crossette. The ancestors on the maternal side were natives of Vermont. The father of Fred H. came west to Wisconsin in 1855 and settled in Walworth county, remaining there three years. In 1858 he moved to Monroe county with his family and purchased 150 acres of wild land and immediately set to work clearing and improving his farm. When the Civil War commenced, he was drafted and served in the twenty fifth regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged and returned home. He was a successful farmer, a good citizen and brave soldier, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for many years a steward in that church. His death occurred in 1879. The mother of our subject raised a family of seven children, four of whom are now living. She was a model housewife, and her womanly graces and domestic virtues made her a worthy helpmeet to her husband. She was a charming lady, a good wife and mother and was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends. She died in 1898.

Fred H. Crossette was raised on his father's farm and attended the district schools until he was sixteen years of age, and finished his education in the high school at Tomah. At the age of twenty, he entered the general store of R. B. Dunlap, at Kendall, where he was employed as clerk for nine months. He was next employed at carpenter work which he followed

with some degree of success for a time and then went to Barron county and embarked in the furniture and undertaking business. He later returned to Tomah, and with three brothers, put $300 into a portable saw mill, which furnished them with employment during the winter months. From this small beginning, the business grew, and other kinds of woodworking machinery were added and they soon had established a fine plant for sawing, planing and manufacturing sash, doors, blinds and store fixtures. This model plant equipped with modern, up-to-date machinery, was destroyed by fire in 1901 with a loss of $12,000.

After prospecting through the county for a location better suited for their business, they finally decided to rebuild on the same spot formerly occupied by them. Mr. Crossette organized a stock company with a capital of $25,000, which was incorporated in 1901; new buildings were erected and equipped and business resumed, which has since met with increased prosperity. To the line of sash, doors, blinds and fixtures, they have recently added the manufacture of silos, also dealers in building material. This is one of the largest and most complete manufacturing plants in the county.

Mr. Crossette is widely known for his sterling qualities, both as a business man and in a social way, and is respected by his friends and asociates as a true example of American manhood, energetic, thrifty and upright. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and in political faith, is a Republican. In all matters pertaining to the betterment of his city and county, he gives his hearty support.

William L. Daly* is one of the live wires of Greenfield township, where he resides on section sixteen, engaged in farming. He was born at Tomah, Wis., on November 14, 1862, the son of John and Catherine (Haley) Daly, both natives of Ireland, who, after their marriage, came to America, and in 1856 to Tomah; they removed after a time to Tunnel City, where the father was employed on the original tunnel of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. In 1867, he settled on eighty acres of school land, called at that time on account of its condition, "Grub Land," and there he continued to reside until his death in 1893 at the age of eighty-six years. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away the same year at the age of seventy-two.

William L. is one of a family of six children, of the others, Timothy is deceased; Martin; Mary, deceased, was the wife of James Barney; John, deceased; William L. and Jerry, who is in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad.

William attended the district school and was raised on the home farm where he has always lived with the exception of about seven years he was employed on the railroad and mining contract work in northern Wisconsin. He returned in 1894 and permanently located on the homestead farm as owner and proprietor, and in 1901, he built a modern residence and barn. Besides general farming, Mr. Daly deals extensively in grade Durham and Holstein cattle, and is a recognized authority in those lines, having been generally successful in every branch he has undertaken. He is thoroughly up with the times, public spirited and generous and is considered one of the most prosperous and progressive citizens of his community. He was married on April 14, 1895, to Miss Margaret O'Brien, daughter of William and Catherine (Sullivan) O'Brien, of Tomah township. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Daly, viz: Marcus J., John W., Bernadine K., Florence M. and Helen F.

Elijah Davenport, who has been conspicuous for many years in the farming community of Greenfield township, is among the few pioneers now living in Monroe county. His birthplace was Dorchester, Mass., four miles from the state house at Boston, the date being November 3rd, 1830. His parents, Elijah L., and Marta O. (Sweat) Davenport, were natives of Massachusetts and Maine respectively. He was a currier by occupation, and they spent their married life at Dorchester, where he died at the age of eighty, and she at the age of eighty-five years. They reared a family of four children, of whom our subject is the eldest. Of the others, Abbie M., deceased; Augusta is the wife of Edward Crocker, of Winthrop, Mass., and Clarence, who resides at the old home in Boston.

Elijah received his education in the common schools, and early assisted his father as a currier; he later learned the trade of cabinet maker and also followed the trade of carpenter and joiner, and for twenty years was engaged in the construction of railway bridges for the Omaha railway, which is now a part of the Northwestern system. Mr. Davenport practically built the village of Humbird, Wis., after he became identified with Monroe county, and embarked in the cabinet and furniture business in Sparta, Monroe county, in 1857; the following year he moved to Greenfield township, where he endured the privations and hardships of those pioneer days, cleared the land and engaged in hop-raising, and afterward took up the work for the railroad as above mentioned. In 1892, he returned to his farm of 240 acres in the town of Greenfield, which has since been his

home. An interesting volume could be made of his experiences and escapades with the Indians in the early days, when there was less than half a dozen white families in his locality, the Indians at that time being bent upon plundering their property, and it was with difficulty that Mr. Davenport could induce them to stay away.

Mr. Davenport comes of a family remarkable for its longevity, and thus inherited his share of mental and physical vigor necessary to the successful farmer. He carries on general farming and enjoys one of the most beautiful farm homes in the county. He has been a Mason since 1878, and is a member of Tomah Lodge, No. 132. He was married on June 19, 1862, to Miss Emiline Sawyer, daughter of David M. and Julia (Adams) Sawyer, both natives of Maine and the first settlers in Tarr valley—she being the first white woman to realize the hardships of the pioneer in this town. The father came to Greenfield with Mr. J. M. Tarr and they entered the first land in the town together—Mr. Sawyer being the first to make the entry and his name was given to the valley which was afterwards, however, changed to Tarr valley, which name it still retains. Mr. Sawyer, father of Mrs. Davenport, was born February 20, 1807, and died April 24, 1864; his wife, mother of Mrs. Davenport, was born September 2, 1816, and died December 12, 1911. Mrs. Davenport was born in 1842 and is the eldest of a family of three children; the others are Martha, wife of W. S. Wyman, a carpenter by occupation, who resides in South Dakota, and Agnes, now Mrs. J. M. Ferguson, of Hastings, Neb. Mrs. Davenport came to Wisconsin at the age of thirteen years and recalls distinctly many incidents of privations during the pioneer days and especially of the Indian trouble in Minnesota when it was necessary for the family to take protective measures each night against molestation. Mrs. Davenport taught the first school in Greenfield township in a log schoolhouse which was raised July 4, 1857, and built by David Sawyer, J. M. Tarr, John Rich, Joseph Couch and others. She also taught the first school in Tunnel City. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Davenport are Clarence E., of Encino, N. M.; Marta A., deceased, and Agnes J., now Mrs. G. W. Bond. Mr. Bond is a prominent and influential citizen of Boise City, Idaho. Mr. and Mrs. Davenport have traveled extensively throughout the United States, having visited nearly all the points of interest, and recently celebrated their golden wedding. Both Mr. and Mrs. Davenport bear the weight of their years most

gracefully and their hospitality extends to a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Hal J. Davis, one of the prominent merchants of Sparta, is pre-eminently a self-made man. Beginning life with no capital other than his native abilities, he has by perseverence, industry and the force of a strong personality, attained to a place among the influential and substantial citizens of his community. A native son of Wisconsin, he was born at Beaver Dam in 1868, his parents being Chester P. and Caroline Davis. He received his education in the schools of his home town and came to Sparta in 1882 when he was fourteen years of age and first entered the employ of Rufus Dodge, as salesman in the then leading mercantile establishment in Sparta. He early displayed such exceptional business ability, he was told by his employer that if he would save his earnings, he might some day become a partner in the business. Young Davis accepted the opportunity, and in 1898 became junior member of the firm. Mr. Dodge, senior member of the firm, was born in Monroe county, New York, in 1840. He carried the musket through the Civil War with the Sixteenth New York Volunteers during the regiment's term of service. After the close of the war, Mr. Dodge came to Wisconsin, settling at Columbus, where he engaged in the mercantile business. In 1872, Gilbert T., Harvey K., and Rufus S. Dodge established the Sparta store, which was conducted under the name of Dodge Brothers and the personal management of Harvey K., until 1877, when Rufus Dodge came to Sparta and took personal charge of the business. In 1879, Gilbert T. Dodge retired, and the same year his brother, Harvey K., died, and from that time until 1898, Rufus S. was the sole proprietor, and Mr. Davis purchased an interest. In 1908, Mr. Dodge died, leaving Mr. Davis in full charge, which he has since continued, occupying the most spacious block in the city with a handsome department store. In the spring of 1900 the old Jackson building was removed and in its stead the present structure was erected on what is known as the old Jackson corner, purchased by the Dodges in 1872, and here the business has since flourished with periodical additions. In 1893 the Tyler store on Water street was purchased, and in 1897 a large addition to both stores was erected in the rear.

Capt. Martin Warner Davis, retired, one of the public spirited and substantial citizens of Sparta, is descended from old and prominent New England families. He was born at Newark, Caledonia county, Vt., January 24, 1836, the son of

Eleazer and Diana (Stoddard) Davis, natives of Chesterfield, N. H., and who when young, removed to Vermont, where, like his father before him, engaged in farming. During the gold excitement in 1849, he went to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and there spent three successful years. His Vermont farming interests were carried on on a large scale, he having at one time as many as 100 acres devoted to the raising of timothy, from which he on one occasion, obtained 600 bushels of seed. In political faith he was a Whig, and was elected to the Vermont legislature and served with distinction through the sessions of 1845-6. He was generous, kind-hearted and a man of unblemished character. He lived to the age of ninety-one years, his death occurring in 1898. Eleazer and his brother, Jonathan Davis, were the sons of Osborn Davis, who spent his active life in northern Vermont, and was known as a stalwart figure among men, and in those early days would often shoulder three bushels of wheat and by the aid of snow shoes, carry it for a mile. He died sometime during the 40's. This particular branch of the Davis family has been definitely traced as far back at 1702.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Alpheus Stoddard, also from Chesterfield, and extensively engaged in farming in northern Vermont, and owned in his own right 500 acres of land. His wife, the maternal grandmother of Captain Davis, was Charlotte Farnsworth, who also was a native of Vermont. The early ancestors of this branch of the Stoddard family were David, born October 23, 1754, and who was the great grandfather of Mr. Davis; Sarah, the great grandmother, was born February 20, 1757. They were the parents of ten children, viz: Lucy, born October 26, 1775; David, born June 24, 1777; Jesse, born June 30, 1779; Lydia, born March 24, 1782; Arad, born February 15, 1784; Charles, born March 16, 1786; Alpheus, grandfather of our subject, born January 11, 1788; Luther, born February 6, 1790; Sally, born March 19, 1792; Eleazer, born May 18, 1794, and Abel, born September 28, 1796.

Captain Davis was reared on a farm in Vermont, and received his elementary education in a log schoolhouse, after which he attended a select school for a short time, and this was supplemented by a course at the Orleans Liberal Institute, which he attended during the year 1852-3. He taught school during the winters of 1855-6-8-9, and worked on the farm during the summer months. He continued farm work until the breaking out of the Civil War, and being imbued with patriotism and

love for the Union, he enlisted as a private in company D, sixth Vermont Volunteer Infantry, October 2, 1861, and was mustered into the service at Montpelier, Vt., October 15, of that year, as second sergeant, was promoted to orderly sergeant in January, 1862, and to second lieutenant May 1, 1862, and to first lieutenant December 1, 1862. On February 3, 1863, for meritorious conduct, he was commissioned captain, continuing as such until the expiration of his term of service. Captain Davis participated in more than two score of the most sanguinary engagements of the war, and became conspicuous for his gallant and heroic conduct. During the battle of Lee's Mills, near Yorktown, April 16, 1862, while his comrades were falling right and left around him, he was wounded and carried from the field, being fortunate to escape with his life. He still carries the bullet in his left side. At the end of sixty days he was able to return to his regiment, and almost immediately became engaged in the seven days' battle before Richmond, change of base being to Harrison's Landing on the James river; he was honorably discharged and mustered out October 28, 1864. A more complete record along these lines has been contributed by Mr. Davis, and will be found among the reminiscences of this volume. After his discharge from the service, he returned to his home in Vermont, and in 1867, came to Wisconsin, first settling at West Salem, La Crosse county, where he engaged in farming. In 1879, he removed to Sparta, locating on West Montgomery street, where he was engaged in the milk business until 1888. For the next two years he turned his attention to the creamery business and in 1890, removed to Harvey, Ill., and took an active part in the upbuilding of that town. He next removed to Morenci, Lenewee county, Mich., and engaged in farming until 1895; he then went to Chicago, Ill., and resided for two years, and returned to Michigan, settling this time at Lamont, where for eight years he was interested in horticulture. Returning again to Harvey, Ill., he remained two years and in the fall of 1908, came back to Sparta, where he still resides. At the time of locating the state school for dependent children at Sparta, Mr. Davis owned the farm upon which the buildings are now located and which he sold to the state.

Mr. Davis has been twice married, his first marriage occurred on April 10, 1858, to Miss Persis Ann Stewart, a daughter of Thomas Carlisle and Emily Brigham, of Brownington, Vt.; she died in Sparta, June 13, 1880, at the age of forty-three years, leaving besides her husband, the following children: Edward W.,

of Brookings, S. D.; Fred E., of Chicago; Laura B., wife of Rev. S. B. Andrus, Waterville, Minn.; Jennie S., wife of Harry B. Parker, Detroit, Mich.; Mabel P., wife of Charles Williams, of West Derby, Vt.; Carl E., Fargo, N. D.; Persis S., the wife of Dr. Howard Rogers, of Framingham, Mass., and John T. Davis, of Chicago.

Mr. Davis has seventeen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. His second marriage, which occurred on June 22, 1884, was with Miss Maria S. Houghton, who was born in 1845, daughter of Solomon and Catherine (Albee) Houghton, the former of St. Johnsbury, Vt., born May 28, 1813, and the latter, Catherine Albee, born April 30, 1814. They lived after their marriage at Augusta, Me., until July 4, 1855, when they came to Wisconsin and settled near Reedsburg, Sauk county, on a farm in Winfield township, where they lived until their decease, his death occurring April 3, 1896, and hers December 13, 1892. They were married at Windsor, Maine, October 2, 1837. From 1834 to 1837 he was a pattern maker for the Fairbanks Scale Company from whom he won honors for his superior workmanship. His health becoming impaired, he went to California in 1850, and remained there for about eighteen months, returning at the end of that time much benefited. The Houghton family trace their ancestry down the line to the historic Garfield family. Mrs. Davis is the third child of a family of four children, those besides her being, Cornelia, who married Vandan B. Clark, of Kearney,, Neb., both of whom are now deceased, his death occurred in 1892 and hers in 1902. John died November 1, 1877, and Frank T. lives on the old homestead near Reedsburg, Wis., where he has resided for the past fifty-eight years.

Captain Davis is a man who stands high in his community, having the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is a member of Lynn Post, No. 30, Grand Army of the Republic, and both he and his estimable wife are members of the Congregational church, of which Mr. Davis became a member over fifty years ago in Vermont. During the past three years, he has been patriotic instructor in the schools of Sparta.

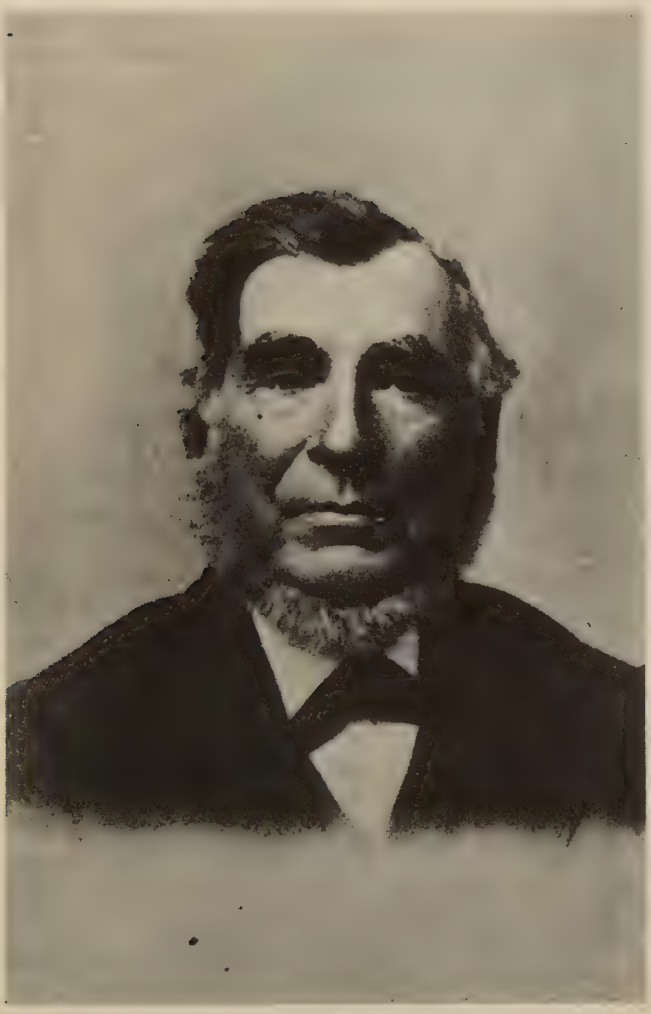
It is a pleasure to give this tribute to a man whose life has been filled with action. He is too energetic a man to be satisfied with inactivity, so there has been more or less doing 'round about him in various lines during his whole lifetime.

William E. Davis, a representative and influential citizen and land owner of Sparta, is a native of the Granite state, and was born December 8, 1864, and is the only surviving son of a family

of three children born to Hiram and Amelia (Chandler) Davis, natives of Hanover, Grafton county, N. H. The names of the other children are Helen M., who also lives in the town of Sparta, and Harriet Anna, who is deceased. Late in the sixties, Hiram S. Davis, with his family, came to Wisconsin, and purchased eighty acres of land near the now city of Sparta, to which he soon added two other eighty's which he cultivated and improved, making one of the finest farms in Monroe county, where he resided until his death. Mr. Davis subsequently sold the north eighty, making changes by purchases and re-purchases until the farm now contains 164 acres.

He was born June 9, 1824, and died in April, 1910. The mother passed away in 1870 at the age of forty-three. David L. Davis, paternal grandfather, and Jeremiah Chandler, maternal grandfather, were both natives of the Granite state, where they spent their lives. The paternal great grandfather of our subject was Bezaliel Davis, a soldier in the War of the Revolution, the powderhorn carried by his distinguished ancestor is still in the possession of the family. The great great grandfather, Benjamin Davis, married Phoebe Doan, a native of Cape Cod. Bezaliel Davis married Mary Wright, their marriage occurring September 12, 1776. David L. Davis married Anna Smith, a native of Grafton county, New Hampshire, and a daughter of John Smith. He was a farmer by occupation, a Democrat in his politics and a Universalist in his religious faith. He was a member of the Masonic order. He lived out the alloted three score and ten years, but his wife survived until her eighty-seventh year; they both died in Grafton county, New Hampshire. They reared seven children, five sons and two daughters, six of whom grew to maturity. Their names were Anna H., who married Joseph Tenny, a native of Grafton county, and a son of a Revolutionary soldier. Mr. Tenny died April 24, 1892, aged eighty-eight years; Mrs. Tenny survived until 1896. Harriet Newell was the wife of Moses Morse, and died in Monroe county about 1874; John S. was a resident of Angelo, Monroe county, when his death occurred. Rodolphus B., who died at the age of eleven years; James C., who moved to Ohio, where he died in 1846; David L., who lived and died in his native state, and Hiram S., who was the youngest of the family.

Hiram S. Davis, our subject's father, was a man of strong convictions on questions of right and wrong, and never lacked in courage to express his sentiments, and was a Democrat in politics.



HIRAM S. DAVIS

William E. Davis received his education in the district and high schools of Sparta, and has always lived on the family homestead, which is still conducted as the Davis estate. In December, 1903, Mr. Davis was married to Miss Margaretta Lewis, daughter of Charles and Eliza Maria (Bush) Lewis. Charles G. Lewis, a native of Vermont, a descendant from an old and prominent New England family, came to Wisconsin many years ago and settled in Dane county, where he remained until 1879, thence removed to monroe county. Mrs. Lewis was a daughter of Henry L. and Margaretta Bradley, natives of Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley later settled in New Jersey, and in the forties came to Wisconsin and thence to the state of Washington, where they died. To Mr. and Mrs. Davis have been born four children, viz: Edgerton L., Phillip C., Karen F. and Ruth Davis.

Charles G. Lewis was born December 18, 1823, at Cornwall, Vermont. His father, Martin Lewis, was also born in the same place, but his mother was born in Tolland, Conn. Martin Lewis came to Wisconsin with his family in the spring of 1846, traveling by way of the lake to Milwaukee, and from there to Madison by team, near which city he lived on a farm until the fall of 1880, when he moved to Sparta with his son, Charles (his wife having died at the home near Madison.) Mr. Lewis lived with his son on a farm between Angelo and Sparta, where he died at the age of ninety-six years. Martin Lewis had three children, Charles G.; Harriet T. died some years ago, and Henry M., an attorney at Madison, and at the present time referee in bankruptcy. The family of Charles G. Lewis consisted of Margaretta B., Harriet, Carl H., and Silas M., all born at Sun Prairie, near Madison. Charles G. taught school for a time at Sun Prairie, was elected a member of the board of education for Dane county, until the territory became a state, was chairman of the town board for five terms, and in 1878 was elected to the general assembly for one term.

Alvin Day*, of Tomah, Monroe county, Wis., was born in this county, February 25, 1866, a son of Calvin and Mary (Davis) Day. Alvin attended the district school up to his sixteenth year, and at an early age started out in life to earn a livelihood. He was at first employed on a farm, following which he spent three years in Nebraska, where he worked on a ranch. Returning to Monroe county, he worked for six years on a cranberry marsh owned by the Appleton, Trayberry Company, and at end of which time he began in a small way to develop a cranberry marsh on a small forty acre tract which he had

acquired in section twenty-six, LaGrange township. Within a short time he added another thirty acre tract in the same section, again adding by purchase 365 acres in sections twenty-six, twenty-seven and twenty-eight, all located in LaGrange township. He, in the meantime, disposed of part of the land not suitable for development, retaining 240 acres, a large part of which has been put under cultivation, and a crop of 1000 barrels of cranberries being the output of 1911, which was sold in the eastern market. Mr. Day devotes his entire attention to cranberry culture, which together with a large force, is employed at the industry, the largest of its kind in Monroe county.

Mr. Day has been a resident of Tomah since 1910. Prior to that time he had resided in LaGrange township. He is a public spirited citizen and is interested in the welfare of Monroe county; besides he is experienced in his particular line of business. He has been clerk of the school board in the town of LaGrange for twenty years and is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

Mr. Day was first married to Miss Bertha Bahling, who died in 1893. In 1898, he married Miss Catherine Desburg, who died in 1911. To this union were born a family of six sons, viz: Arthur C., born December 21, 1899; Harold E., born February 27, 1903; Alva L., born November 2, 1904; Paul H., born February 27, 1906; Ray A., born January 25, 1908, and Harry C., born November 9, 1909. Mr. Day was again married June 6, 1912, in the city of Milwaukee, to Miss Alice Uischuer, daughter of William Uischuer, of LaGrange township. Mrs. Day is the second child of a family of six and received her education in the public schools of Monroe county.

Calvin Day, a representative and highly respected citizen of Wellington township, was born in Pennsylvania, August 14, 1829, a son of Elias and Charity (Eator) Day. When our subject was two years of age, his parents moved to Athens county, Ohio; after a residence there of twenty-one years, the family moved to Wapello county, Iowa, where the father engaged in farming and made his home until his death in 1887. The mother passed away when Calvin was twelve years old. They reared a family of nine children. After the death of his wife, Elias Day was married for the second time to Jane Dudley in Athens county, Ohio, and by this union two children were born. The early ancestors on the paternal side of Calvin Day came from Wales, while his mother was Pennsylvania Dutch. His grandfather on the maternal side was a soldier in the War of 1812, and his great grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution.

When a mere lad, Calvin received his early education in the cooper shop of his father from a private instructor, and when he reached the age of seventeen years, he bought his time from his father with his share of his mother's estate, so that he was free to carve out an independent livelihood for himself. He began his career as a laborer, which occupation he followed until he bought from his father fifty acres of land in Athens county, Ohio, for which he paid his father $200. A man of thrift, steady and economical habits, Mr. Day from the beginning prospered, and is now the owner of 139 acres of land in Wellington township and 123 in Forest township, on which he has made valuable and lasting improvements. He has built a fine residence, barn and outbuildings, and keeps his place well stocked with good horses and cattle, and in his farming operations, employs the most up-to-date methods. Mr. Day is a man of liberal education, self acquired, and is well posted on all current subjects. In political sentiment he is independent, but a strong believer in Socialism.

Mr. Day has been four times married; first at the age of twenty, and by his first wife had one child, Elenor. He married again in 1856 and by that marriage had one son, John. In 1857, he married for the third time and seven children were born, viz: Helen, Jane, Frank, Sarah, Calvin, Alvin and Samuel. On September 30, 1883, in the town of Wellington, he was married for the fourth time, this wife being Mrs. Adda L. LaRouge, and by this union four children were born, viz: Mary, born March 3, 1885; Lewis, born February 8, 1887; Archie and Arthur, twins, born June 20, 1891. Mrs. Day is one of a family of ten children. Her parents were among the early settlers of Monroe county and the father at the time of his death, which occurred May 20, 1885, was the owner of 160 acres of land. His wife, mother of Mrs. Day, passed away September 25, 1885.

Erie DeWitt is the son of Richard and Sally Ann (Thompson) DeWitt, who came to Wisconsin in 1856 with a family of five children, and located in Wells township, Monroe county, where the father purchased 360 acres of land in section nineteen and twenty-nine, and it was here our subject was born on August 25, 1858, and is the youngest of a family of six children, all of whom are now—1912—living. The others are, Ora Richard, of Sparta, Eugenia, Wells township, Sally Ann, wife of Eugene Austin, of Leon, Jane, wife of Mortimer Arnold, of Sparta, Laura, widow of George V. Riggs, of Wells township. The father was born in Vermont in 1812, and the mother in New York state in 1823.

He was an honored and progressive citizen of Wells township, where he spent his life, his death having occurred in 1901. His wife, mother of our subject, was a charming lady of many domestic virtues, devoted to her home and family, and held in high esteem by all who knew her; she passed away in 1908, mourned by her devoted family and a large circle of friends. In religious faith, both Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt were Spiritualists.

Erie DeWitt was reared on the home farm and received his education in the district schools, assisting in carrying on the farm work until 1889, when he was married to Miss Mary Glass in McHenry county, Illinois. He then purchased 195 acres of choice land in Wells township which is under a good state of cultivation and well improved with a modern house and barn and other outbuildings, all of which are supplied with pure water from a flowing well 275 feet deep. He carries on general farming and stock raising and is one of the well-to-do farmers of this township. He is a Republican in politics and active in the councils of his party, and has been called upon to serve in various minor town offices.

Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt have an interesting family of four daughters and two sons, viz: May, born April 25, 1890; Ernest, born March 18, 1894; Richard, born May 7, 1895; Grace, born December 2, 1896; Eliza, born August 28, 1900, and Laura, born November 7, 1901.

George E. Dinger is a prominent farmer of Leon township, Monroe county, where he was born January 24, 1867, son of George and Racheal Dinger, natives of Germany, who came first to La Crosse county, Wisconsin; to Leon township in 1866, and were among the representative citizens of that town. He was a farmer by occupation and lived on his farm of 305 acres until 1892, when he retired from active labor and moved to Sparta, where he died in 1907.

George E., our subject, was reared on the farm and his experience was the same as most farmer boys. He attended the district school in winter and assisted with the farm work during the summer. When his father moved to the city of Sparta, he purchased the old homestead of 305 acres and has since made many valuable and lasting improvements. During the year of 1912, he built a new residence of sixteen rooms, containing all modern conveniences, hot and cold water, etc. Mr. Dinger is engaged in general farming and for some time has made a specialty of dairying. He built a large separator and milk house which is supplied with pure running water from an artesian well

265 feet deep. He is one of the solid men of his town and a generous public spirited gentleman.

On June 9, 1892, he was married to Miss Emma Croft, daughter of William and Elizabeth Croft. The father was born in England and came to America with his parents when a boy, who were among the early settlers of Leon valley. The father died in 1910, leaving besides his widow, who now lives in Oregon, at the age of seventy years, one daughter, now Mrs. Dinger, and one son, who resides in California. To Mr. and Mrs. Dinger have been born six children—five of whom are now—1912—living, viz: Russell, born March 30, 1893; Floyd, born February 2, 1896; Georgia, born January 17, 1898; Florence, born April 10, 1900, and William, born June 5, 1903. Mrs. Dinger is a graduate of the Sparta high school, and taught several years in Cannon valley and Pleasant valley, in Leon township, and afterwards at Summit.

Archie Lee Doane. Among the progressive farmers of Lafayette township is Archie Lee Doane, who was born September 6, 1859, son of Timothy A. and Sarah Maria (Rhodes). Doane, natives of New York state and Connecticut, respectively. When Archie was two years of age, in 1861, his parents moved to Monroe county and settled in Bush prairie on the farm where Peter Allendorf lived during his lifetime. The father died in 1866 and the mother is still living (1912) at the age of eight-eight years. They raised a family of five children, viz: Orcelus, deceased; Charles A.; Archie L.; Lillian J., wife of Andrew Hutson, of Big Creek, and Ernest T.

Archie L. received a common school education in the local district schools and helped in the farm work during his boyhood. When twelve years of age, he left the home farm and came with his mother who, after the death of the father, married in 1872 for her second husband, William P. Williams, and moved to the farm in section seven, Lafayette township, where our subject has since resided. After the death of Mr. Williams in 1878, Archie in connection with his two brothers, managed the farm for twenty years, and in 1904 our subject purchased the whole place and has since carried it on alone. The farm containing 240 acres, is well improved, with a comfortable residence and outbuildings, besides a commodious barn erected by Mr. Doane in 1908. He has cleared sixty acres since he purchased the farm and one fall he grubbed some 600 stumps and has made many other improvements on this magnificent farm which was noted in the early days for the wheat raising quality of

the soil. Mr. Doane is engaged in general farming and stock-raising; Durham and Red Pole cattle being his favorites. In addition to this, he, during the threshing seasons from 1905 to 1908, ran a thresher through the Welsh and Beaver Creek valleys. Prominent in the affairs of his township, he has been supervisor two terms and overseer of the highways.

On May 12, 1890, Mr. Doane married Miss Emma Herring, daughter of Peter and Mary (Smith) Herring, natives of Germany. To this union have been born five children, viz: Fern, Ralph, Fay, Joy and Irene Doane.

Charles A. Doane, a well known citizen of Monroe county, and one of her large class of prosperous and substantial farmers, was born in Genesee county, New York, October 27, 1855, the second child of a family of four sons and one daughter born to Timothy A. and Sarah (Rhodes) Doane, natives of New York state and Connecticut, respectively. Of the other children, Orcelus is deceased; Archie resides on section seven, Lafayette township; Lillian is the wife of Andrew Hutson, of Big Creek valley, and Ernest is a prosperous farmer of Lafayette township. The parents with their family came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, in 1861, and located on a farm in section twenty, Lafayette township, where the father died in 1865, aged forty-five years. The mother, a charming lady, still survives (1912) at the age of eighty-eight years, and makes her home with the subject of this sketch.

Charles A. was reared on the farm, having the common experience of the ordinary farmer boy, receiving his education in the district schools. He lived on the home farm until he reached the age of twenty-four, in 1879, then purchased his present farm in section thirty-two, town of Lafayette, where he has since resided. He has made many improvements, added new buildings and the land is in a high state of cultivation, which produces each year an abundant harvest.

On June 6, 1888, Mr. Doane was united in marriage to Miss Anna Wilson, daughter of Charles Wilson, of Little Falls township. Three children have been born to this union, viz: Clarence L., resides in Montana; Lucile J., and Sadie M. reside at home. Mr. Doane takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county and his integrity has been recognized by his fellow citizens in many ways, by placing him in the office of town treasurer, treasurer of the school district and chairman of the town board.

Ernest T. Doane, who has passed his whole life as a farmer in Lafayette township, Monroe county, where he was born November 7, 1864, is the son of Timothy A. and Sarah (Rhodes) Doane, natives of New York state and Connecticut, respectively, and is the youngest son of a family of five children. (See sketch of Charles A. Doane of this volume.) The parents came to Monroe county in 1851 and settled on a farm in Lafayette township, where the father died in 1865 at the age of forty-five years. The mother is still (1912) living at the age of eighty-eight, and makes her home with her son, Charles A. Doane. Ernest was raised on the farm and attended the district schools and later the high school of Sparta. Afterward he became associated with his brothers, Archie L. and Charles A., in farming operations, which arrangement continued until 1896, when our subject purchased his present farm of 120 acres in section twenty-eight, Lafayette township, from W. H. White. The same year he erected a new residence and otherwise improved the place. During the years 1897, 1898 and 1900 he added outbuildings and in 1892 built a large and commodious barn 28 x 72 feet, and in 1911 erected a modern silo. A flowing well supplies the barn and stock with running water. He engages in general farming and dairying and his farm is well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs. Mr. Doane has been recognized in his town and county as a man of marked ability and worth; he has been township clerk for six years; chairman of the town board three years and clerk of the school district. He is president of the Sparta Creamery Association, and a director in the Farmer's Mutual Insurance Association.

On September 9, 1896, Mr. Doane was united in marriage with Miss Mary Belle Remington, daughter of John and Martha (Harris) Remington, now residents of Sparta. Mrs. Doane is one of a family of three children. The others are Ida, now Mrs. Frank Gantka, of Little Falls township, and Minnie, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Doane have a family of two children: Gertrude Leah, born November 10, 1900, and Wilmer Ernest, born October 8, 1905.

Theodore Donskey,* one of the leading farmers of Ridgeville township, was born in Germany on October 29, 1869, and came to America with his parents, John and Josephine (Grathenerk) Donskey, the following year. The family first located in Chicago, Ill., and shortly afterward moved to the town of Wells, in Monroe county, where, in 1872, they purchased a farm of 160 acres and lived there until they retired from active farm life. They raised

a family of six boys and five girls, all of whom are now—1912—living, Theodore being the eldest of the family. The parents were thrifty and persevering, and it was not long after they purchased the farm, before their faithful efforts were justly crowned with success. They brought the land to a high state of cultivation and made it one of the ideal country homes. They were both devoted members of the Catholic church, and were highly respected in their community. The mother passed away in 1900, the father still survives at the age of seventy-two and holds the confidence and esteem of his many friends and acquaintances.

Theodore Donskey was married in Chicago, Ill., in 1887, to Miss Frances O. Parker. They have had two children, viz: Martha, born January 12, 1896, and Rosa, born July 28, 1898. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Donskey lived in Summit Ridge, in Ridgeville township, where they worked a rented farm for about twelve years, then bought a farm of 330 acres in the town of Ridgeville, which they afterward sold, and purchased another tract of 209 acres in sections nine and four, which has since been their homestead and is one of the ideal farm homes of Monroe county. Mr. Donskey is a man of excellent judgment and thoroughly up to date with his farming methods as well as in matters involving public interest, and consequently he has made his chosen occupation a grand success. He is a Democrat in his political views, and has held the office of town treasurer for two years, and takes a keen interest in the general progress and welfare of his town and county. He is public spirited and enterprising and is a valuable citizen in his community.

Orville J. Dorwin, a former member of the Sparta Sash & Door Company, who has arisen from a poor but ambitious farmer boy to the position of one of the leading manufacturers and substantial business men of Sparta, was born in Angelo township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, July 28, 1866, the son of Samuel N. and Lucy (Rollins) Dorwin, both natives of Vermont, who were among the early settlers of Monroe county. Raised on the home farm with the success of the business largely dependent upon him, Mr. Dorwin's educational advantages were somewhat limited; he attended the district schools and his aptitude for practical knowledge, overcame the obstacles which confronted him in the way of education, and placed him on the plane with others whose advantages were far greater. At the age of twenty-four, he left the farm and spent two years at the carpenter trade with E. T. Hanchett, and in the spring of 1892,

he located in Sparta and commenced contracting and building, which he followed for a period of six years, during which time he erected some of the most substantial dwellings and other buildings in the city. In 1898 he engaged in the sash and door business with Frank Freeman, the style of the firm being Dorwin & Freeman. Mr. Freeman later sold his interest to Mr. Dorwin, and later he sold a half interest to W. H. Stelting and the firm name changed to Dorwin & Stelting, which continued for two years, Mr. Stelting selling his interest to M. R. Ebert, when Mr. Dorwin became sole owner of the business, and carried it on successfully until 1908; at this time he associated with the Naset Brothers, under which arrangement the business has since continued as the Sparta Sash & Door Company, one of the chief industries of the city, its output being distributed throughout the entire state. The finishings for two buildings for the state school, two ward schools, and several store houses for the government range, as well as numerous other buildings have come from this factory, the business having increased from a small beginning to over $40,000 in 1910. Mr. Dorwin severed his connection with the above firm on November, 1911, and now has lumber interests at Ft. Meyer, Fla.

Mr. Dorwin is a man who enjoys the confidence and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact, both in a business way and socially. Unassuming in manner, he has a quiet consciousness of his own, strength of character and latent force thus has carried him past all difficulties which he has encountered during his lifetime. He is an active member of the Masonic fraternity at Sparta.

On October 18, 1892, Mr. Dorwin was married at Baraboo, to Miss Amelia Seltz, daughter of August Seltz, of Sparta.

Sidney N. Dorwin, for fifteen years local manager of the Brittingham & Hixon Lumber Company, of Sparta, came from Fairfax, Franklin county, Vermont, where he was born on Augsut 22, 1859, to Samuel N. and Lucy (Rollins) Dorwin, natives of that state, where they lived until 1860, then moved to Wisconsin and located at Angelo, in Monroe county, where the father conducted a shoe store until the breaking out of the Civil War. He enlisted in company D twenty-fifth regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry for three years' service in which he experienced many hardships. In one of the battles in which he was engaged, he received a severe wound from the effects of which he lost one of his legs; as soon as his condition would permit, he received his discharge from the service and returned to his home in Angelo

and resumed his shoe business. He was one of Monroe county's most highly respected citizens, and although being at the disadvantage of having but one limb, he was active and progressive and took a deep interest in all public matters. He died in 1907 at the age of seventy-five years.

Lyman Dorwin, paternal grandfather of Sidney N., was also a native of Vermont, where he lived and raised a family of four children, Samuel N. being the oldest. He was a tanner by trade, and upon his arrival in Monroe county in the late fifties, he built and operated for several years the first tannery at Sparta. He later traded this property for a farm in Sparta township, which he made his homestead and lived there until his death at the age of eighty-two years. His wife, grandmother of our subject, died when Samuel N. was but twelve years of age. The second marriage of Lyman Dorwin was with Miss Cheida Hoyt, of Vermont. To this union one daughter, Agnes, was born; she married Frank Kendall, of Sparta, both are deceased. —— Rollins, maternal grandfather of our subject, was a shoemaker by trade, and a native of Milton Falls, Vt. Lucy Rollins, maternal grandmother of Mr. Dorwin, was the oldest of a family of ten children. She died at St. Albans, Vt., the place of her birth, in 1909, aged eighty-eight years. Both the Dorwin and Rollins families were descended from English ancestry.

Sidney N. Dorwin was reared on the farm and attended the district schools until he reached the age of nineteen years, when he became imbued with the advice of the late Horace Greeley to go West, he went to Dakota, where he secured a claim, but not finding the situation to his liking, he returned to Wisconsin, and engaged for two years in farming. The lumber business being at this time at its height, he went to Cumberland, Wis., and was employed for three years by the Beaver Lake Lumber Company. He then worked in the mill and woods until 1886, when he came to Sparta and entered the employ of O. L. Irwin in 1886, with whom he remained until 1896. Mr. Irwin was then conducting the lumber business which has since consolidated with other plants and is now under the ownership of Brittingham & Hixon, with Mr. Dorwin as its manager until September, 1911, having been with the last named company since 1896. Since that time has been engaged as lumber salesman in southern Wisconsin.

Mr. Dorwin is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Modern Woodmen of America. On September 20, 1882, he was married to Miss Nettie J. Harvey, only child of

Micah A. and Delia (Chamberlain) Harvey, natives of New Hampshire and early settlers of Angelo, Monroe county, Wisconsin. Mr. Harvey is a mechanic by trade, and is a highly respected citizen. His wife, mother of Mrs. Dorwin, died in 1898 at the age of sixty-two years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dorwin have been born four children, viz: Harvey C., born February 25, 1885; Ernest J., born June 28, 1888; Harold M., born January 16, 1891, and died June 3, 1911; Delia Lucy, born February 3, 1907.

The following is an extract from an article of the Sparta paper on the death of Harold M. Dorwin:

"Harold M. Dorwin departed this vale of tears and took leave of his beloved parents, brothers and sister early Saturday night, June 3rd. The immediate cause of his death was tuberculosis which developed into an acute form in February of this year. Harold had been in poor health at time of his graduation from the high school, and never really recovered completely from his troubles at that time. His parents and friends besought him to rest, but he was ambitious and anxious to get on in the world, and could not be persuaded to give up his employment until this past winter, when he was beyond help. The work of this young man in the Monroe county bank, has been such as to attract favorable comment from his employers, other bankers and from business men who have observed it. There was a seriousness of purpose and sincerity of interest that foretold promotion and advancement in his chosen profession and in the world of business. His young friends and school associates knew an entirely different side of him from the business side, and feel their loss keenly. His even temperament had a soothing effect upon his companions of less fortunate disposition, and he was a source of comfort to them. Up to the time of his serious attack, he was organist of the Methodist church, and while this work and his work on the piano, he did because of his great love for it, he gave evidence of much talent and musical ability and his efforts on the piano as well as on the large organ were little less than wonderful. The funeral was held at the residence of his parents on south K street, Tuesday P. M., and was largely attended."

Albert E. Drowatzky,* who resides on his farm of 280 acres in section fifteen, Adrian township, was born on the farm adjoining his on June 26, 1877. His parents, Frederick and Bertha (Holtz) Drowatzky, who reside on section ten, this township, are natives of Prussia. The father was born November 6, 1839,

and is the son of John and Mary (Jess) Drowatzky, also natives of Prussia, and who came with their son to Monroe county in 1856 and settled in Adrian township where our subject's father now resides. His brothers, Charles and Bernard, uncles of our subject, had preceded him in 1854, and the three brothers took up six forties of government land and for many years resided in the same neighborhood. The farm where Albert E. now resides being that of Charles, who died there. Bernard, the other brother, now resides in Tomah. The grandparents of our subject died on the homestead farm and were buried in the cemetery at Jacksonville. The first buildings on the homestead farm where Frederick D. now resides, were a log house and stables which were later supplanted by a modern house built in 1876 from stone taken from the farm, and other up-to-date buildings followed as the times demanded. The journey to this new home was made overland from Madison with a team of oxen and the hardships experienced were many, and they had some difficulty in reaching the home, which was then only a wilderness. The grandfather had the misfortune of a broken limb and remained at Madison for some time before being able to join the rest of the family. The land was cleared by members of the family, who used three yoke of oxen in tilling the soil, which was transformed from the wild state to one of productiveness, and at this time, Mr. Drowatzky's is one of the fine farms of Monroe county.

In the early days of their residence in this county, the Indians were numerous and sometimes troublesome, often stealing their stock and otherwise annoying the newcomers. One year the smallpox scourge raged among them and they died so fast that their bodies laid piled up in one place on the farm until they could be given the Indian burial. Mr. Drowatzky, Sr., is a representative of the sturdy pioneer of Adrian township, and a man of strict integrity and sterling worth, a standard citizen who enjoys the confidence and respect of the entire community.

The subject of this sketch, Albert E. Drowatzky, is the third child in order of birth in a family of eight children; of the others, Rudolph, resides in Montana; William H. in San Antonio, Texas; Elizabeth is the wife of R. M. Jones, of Bangor, La Crosse county; Louis resides at Tunnel City, this county; Arthur lives on the homestead farm; Emil resides in Oakdale township and Martha is in Montana. On December 19, 1902, Mr. Drowatzky purchased his present farm from the heirs of his uncle, and has since there resided engaged in general farming. At the time of his purchase, the farm was considered little more than a

pasture, which Mr. Drowatzky has transferred into a productive and desirable farm. The same year he settled on this place, he built a barn, and in 1903 erected a residence and in 1906 built a large and commodious barn; the farm is now under a good state of cultivation, and contains the finest spring of pure water in that locality.

During his whole lifetime, Mr. Drowatzky has been a resident of his native town with the exception of four years when he was variously employed in Minnesota, southern Wisconsin and for one year was employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad in building and contracting. On December 23, 1903, he was married to Miss Augusta Misch, daughter of August and Reka (Trapp) Misch, residents of Grant township, Monroe county. The parents emigrated from Germany to this country when Mrs. Drowatzky was three years of age. They have two children, viz: Leo Ray, and Elmer Raymond Drowatzky. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Drowatzky affiliate with the German Lutheran church of Tomah.

Ben A. Drawver, one of the successful farmers of Sheldon township, was born in the town of Wells, Monroe county, on February 13, 1875, and is the son of Paul and Anna Drawver, both natives of Germany; the father came to America in 1873 and located first in Dane county where he worked a few months as a farm laborer. The same year, 1873, he came to Monroe county and settled in the town of Sheldon and for a time worked at carpentering and milling. He homesteaded eighty acres of land in section thirty-five, town of Wells, and lived there until 1909, when he moved with his family to the village of Norwalk, where he has since been generally successful in all his undertakings and active in the affairs of the Republican party. He was married in 1874 and reared a family of nine children.

Ben A. Drawver received his education in the common schools, and lived at home with his parents until he was twenty years of age. Thrown upon his own resources in early life, he began his career at various employment and small wages. At the age of twenty he went to North Dakota where he spent five years at the threshing machine business, and by his economy and perseverance he succeeded in saving enough whereby he purchased a farm in his own right near Oil City in Sheldon township, and is now one of the representative and popular citizens of the town. Besides his farming operations, Mr. Drawver has for the past twenty-one years been engaged in the threshing machine and saw mill business, and has held various political

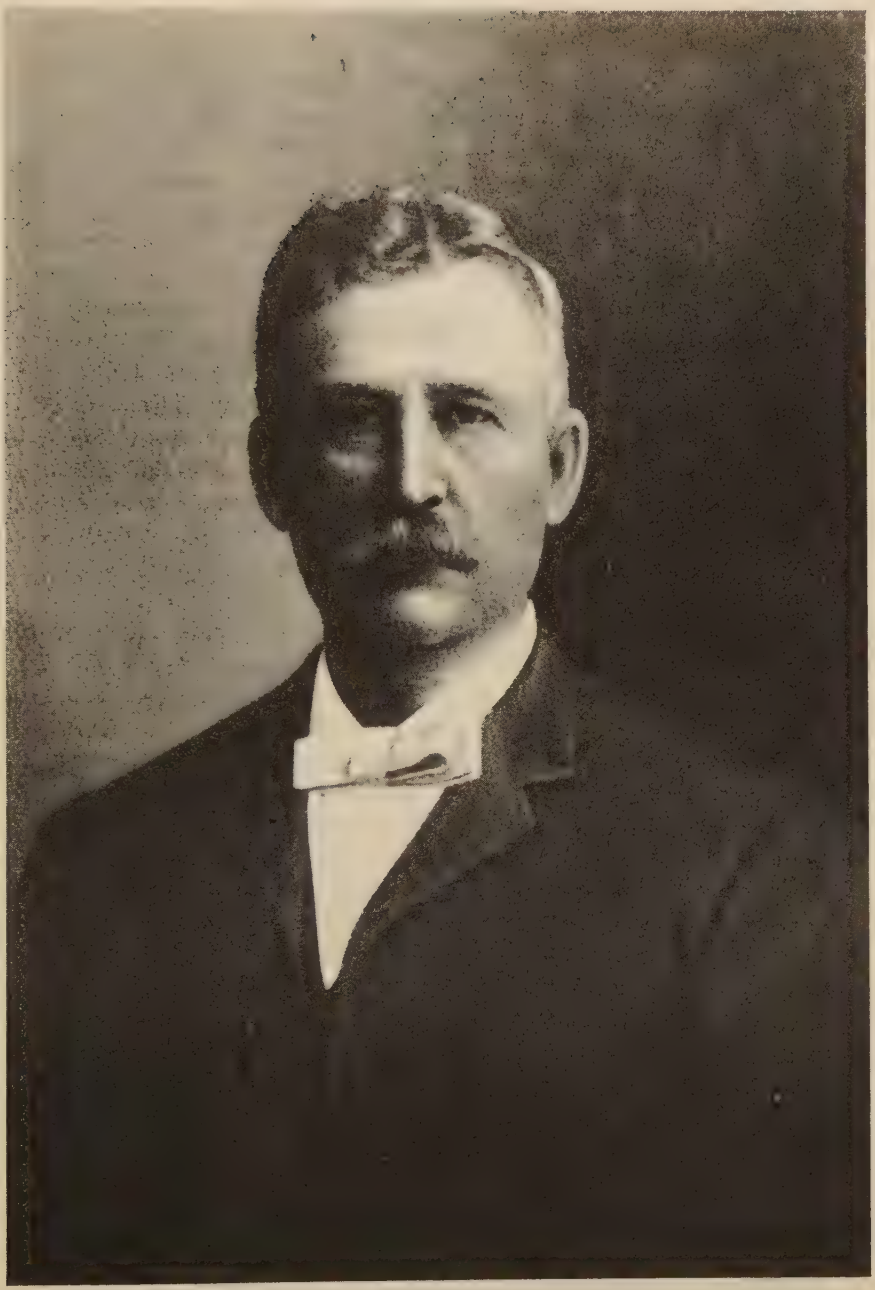
offices in his town. He is a Republican in politics and active in the councils of his party. He served one year as supervisor and for seven years was clerk of the school board; he was elected chairman of the town board in 1912.

On November 2, 1904, he was married in Sheldon to Miss Grace Curtis, daughter of Jed and Etta Curtis. They have three children, viz: Wayne, born August 7, 1908; Wendell, born August 4, 1906, and Orland, born April 5, 1910.

Charles Ducklow, deceased. To the young men of our land the life of the subject of this sketch is an enduring example of the cardinal virtues of industry, uprightness and frugality, of strict temperance and unwearied perseverance.

Mr. Ducklow was a native of Wisconsin, born April 3, 1853, in the town of Ashippun, Dodge county. His parents were Thomas and Elizabeth (Nicholson) **Ducklow,** natives of Cork, Ireland, and who came to the United States and settled in Dodge county in the early forties. They were the parents of twelve children, Charles being the eighth in order of birth. Five brothers and three sisters still survive.

Charles Ducklow passed his boyhood in Dodge county and his early experiences were those of the average poor boy of that region. He received his early education in the common schools of his native place, and in 1874 began the trade of carpenter and joiner, and followed this occupation in his home town, and also bought cattle in Calumet and Pierce counties. In 1879, he removed to Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he continued at cattle buying, until 1883, whence he moved to Modena, Buffalo county, and was postmaster under both the Garfield and Harrison administrations, and also engaged in mercantile pursuits, carrying on a successful business here until the spring of 1890. He then moved to Wilton, Monroe county, and resumed his mercantile trade in that place. In 1893 he added a lumber yard to his other line of business, which he enlarged from time to time as increasing trade demanded. In 1897 he disposed of his mercantile establishment and from that time on devoted his entire attention to his lumber interests, which grew to such large proportions, that at the time of his decease, November 26, 1911, his was among the largest enterprises of its kind in Monroe county. He was a man of excellent ability, keen foresight, and success crowned his efforts. In all his affairs, Mr. Ducklow was characterized by his promptness, good judgment and conservation, and admired by all who were brought into contact with him for his honorable and inherent methods, and his passing away was mourned as that



Charles Ducklow

of a good man, a useful citizen and a loyal friend. He took a commendable interest in public affairs, and for several years worked in Republican campaigns.

Mr. Ducklow was reared an Episcopalian, but contributed liberally to the support of other churches. He was prominent in Masonic circles, a member of Wilton Lodge, No. 203, Sparta Lodge, No. 19, R. A. M., Sparta Commandery, No. 16, Wisconsin Consistory, Scottish Rite, and Tripola Temple, Mystic Shrine, Milwaukee. He was also a member of the Eastern Star, and Modern Woodmen of America. The burial was made at Woodlawn cemetery, Sparta, November 30, 1911, under Masonic auspices.

On November 20, 1882, Mr. Ducklow was united in marriage to Miss Eva I. Shaw, daughter of John and Jerusha A. (Wheeler) Shaw, residents of Rock Elm, Pierce county. Mrs. Ducklow is a native of Dodge county, Wisconsin, where her parents resided for many years. Her father died in 1904; he was born in 1840. Her mother is still living.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ducklow were born four children, viz: William T., born October 22, 1883; Elmer E., born March 25, 1889; Charles E., born March 15, 1891, and Lynn S. Ducklow, born February 21, 1902.

Since the death of his father, William T. has been the active manager of the lumber business formerly conducted by his father. He is an enterprising young business man and gives promise of becoming one of Monroe county's most influential citizens, following in the footsteps of his father in many ways. He is also active in Masonic circles, being a member of the same bodies as was his father, with the exception of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Ducklow is a most estimable lady whose superior qualities of mind and heart attract to her the admiration of all who come within the range of her influence, and presides with grace and dignity over her beautiful home at Wilton.

George D. Dunn was born at Elmira, N. Y., September 18, 1838, being the son of Thomas and Rachel (Satterlee) Dunn, natives of Bath and Elmira, N. Y., respectively.

Thomas Dunn was born in 1799 and married Rachel Satterlee in 1829; he was reared in the mercantile business which he carried on when he came to manhood and also engaged in the real estate business; his early business career was at Elmira, N. Y. He came to Sparta, Wis., in 1862, where he died in 1871.

Rachel Satterlee, the mother of George D., was born in 1809 and died in 1885; she was the daughter of Elias and Elizabeth (Smith) Satterlee; their earlier life was spent at Elmira and

they were among the pioneers of that place; Elias Satterlee, her father, was a physician by profession and at the time of the Wyoming valley Indian massacre his father's family were residents of the town of Wyoming, Pa., and when the Indian outbreak occurred, they returned to Connecticut; about the year 1804 Elias Satterlee moved to Elmira, N. Y. He was in the military service for a time as a surgeon in the war of 1812, and participated in the Battle of Lundy's Lane, Canada. After his return to Elmira he was accidentally killed by the discharge of a gun; his death occurred when Rachel, the mother of George D., was six years of age. The family consisted of five children, two sons and three daughters; they were of English descent.

Mr. Dunn's ancestry were of Scotch descent and were among the earlier settlers of the state of Pennsylvania; William Dunn, paternal grandfather of George D., settled at Bath, N. Y., wher he remained until 1804, then removed to Elmira, N. Y., when the father of George D. was five years of age. Charles Dunn, the brother of Thomas, was the first white child born at Bath, N. Y.; the other members of the family were Thomas Dunn and Judge James Dunn and William Dunn, and two sisters, Susan and Elsie. They each raised large families whose descendants are to be found in the different parts of the United States.

George D. Dunn was the only son in a family of five children, and besides himself there is only surviving a sister, Fanny S., widow of S. N. Dickinson, now living at Sparta, Wis. George D. was educated in the public schools of Elmira, N. Y., and began his business career as clerk for the firm of Thompson Dunn at Elmira, at the age of sixteen. In 1856, he came West and located in Lodi, Wis., where his uncle, Rev. John Lewis, was then located. A few months later he went to Janesville, and entered the employ of Chapman Brothers as clerk. After a time he was placed in charge of a branch store, of this firm at Albany, Wis., which he managed for about two years in that place. In June, 1861, the store was removed to Sparta, and Mr. Dunn continued in charge of the same.

In the fall of the same year he purchased this branch store and has been since continuously engaged in the dry goods business at Sparta. His first store was located in a wooden building where the Stringham building now stands. In 1869, he erected the present store building which he has occupied ever since. Mr. Dunn has been continuously engaged in business for himself and has made a remarkable record, being the only merchant in

the state of Wisconsin who has continued in the dry goods business without any change of firm name for over fifty years.

When Mr. Dunn came to Sparta in 1861, it was but a small village of about six or eight hundred people, and his competitors were, S. D. Jackson and Co., O. D. Randall, brother of ex-Governor Randall, and G. W. Root. At present O. D. Randall is the only one of the above merchants who is living besides Mr. Dunn.

Mr. Dunn was one of the original organizers and stockholders of the Monroe county bank, which was inaugurated in 1894. At that time he was elected president of the board of directors and has continuously held that office since that time. Under his presidency the bank has built up a handsome business and is one of the solid financial institutions of this part of the state.

During his long career in business Mr. Dunn has accumulated a comfortable fortune and his liberality in aiding in different enterprises has been one of the characteristics of his life; many a struggling church has received a generous contribution from Mr. Dunn to aid it in building a building or for some other worthy purpose, all given unostentatiously and with a desire to do good; he was one of the principal instigators of the company which originally built the armory now owned by the Aibonito Guard Association and he has been equally and at all times interested in public enterprises which were for the benefit of the city and surrounding country and has been free to give to objects which he thought were worthy and of benefit to the community at large.

Truly a remarkable record is that of Mr. Dunn in the mercantile business; his name is synonymous with square dealing, honesty and uprightness and when the last chapter of his life is brought to a close it may be truly said that the career of George D. Dunn, while modest in its way, was that of a typical American boy coming from good old pioneer stock, who steadily climbed the ladder of success depending entirely upon his own native gifts and perseverance.

Among the relatives of Mr. Dunn who helped to make history in the different parts of the country was an uncle by the name of Dr. Benedict Satterlee, who gave up his duties in the East and went as a medical missionary among the Pawnee Indians and was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., in 1833, at a time when that was indeed a part of the far West and almost out of the reach of civilization. He left Elmira with his bride in that year,

she dying on the way. About 1836 he was found dead, supposed to have been killed by the Indians, but years afterward an old trapper made a death-bed confession that he killed him for his gun. Mr. Dunn has in his possession letters written by Dr. Satterlee during the period of 1833 to 1836 which were sent across the country before the time that the postage stamps came into use. These letters contain accounts of the adventures of Dr. Satterlee in that country and are truly something very interesting.

L. M. Earle, cashier of the Bank of Cashton, was born November 6, 1873, in Tomah, Wis., the son of Watson and Emma (Turner) Earl, both of old New England ancestry, the father a native of New York state and the mother a native of Vermont.

After obtaining a good education in the schools of his neighborhood Mr. Earle early entered upon a business career, being a young man, courageous and of good habits, and feeling himself thoroughly competent to rely upon his own resources. His first employment was as clerk for the banking house of M. A. Thayer & Co., at Tomah, where he remained for about one year, and from there he went to Hillsboro, N. D., and took a position with the National Bank of Hillsboro and worked for one year. He then returned to Wisconsin and from 1893 to 1909 he worked as bookkeeper in the Bank of Tomah, since which time he has been in his present position, the officers of the bank being Watson Earle, president; L. W. Earle, vice-president, and L. M. Earle, cashier.

Mr. Earle is a Republican in politics and for many years has been a faithful worker for his party.

On January 1, 1901, Mr. Earle married Miss Anna Campbell, of Cashton, and they have one child—Anna R., born October 2, 1909.

M. H. Easly,* a progressive and prominent business man of Tomah, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, August 12, 1865, to Michael and Bridget (McBrearty) Easly, both natives of Ireland. Coming to America in 1848, the father located at Cincinnati, where he engaged in business as a tanner and bought and dealt in all kinds of hides, which in those early days was a profitable business. It was here that he married, made his home and raised his family until 1868, when he went to Missouri and engaged in farming in Jefferson county, where he lived until his death in 1903. He was thrifty and progressive and universally successful in his undertakings, a man of influence in his community and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him.

Raised on his father's farm, Mr. Easly obtained his education

in the district schools of his township. After completing his studies he followed the vocation of teaching school for a time, then went to Texas and secured employment with a bridge crew working on the Atcheson, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad. He came to Wisconsin in 1886 and spent some time in a sawmill in Jackson county; he also spent some time in the logging business in the woods on the Yellow river in Wood county. After visiting other points he went to Grant county and engaged in farming. In the spring of 1894 he came to Tomah and secured employment with the Crossette Manufacturing Company, with whom he remained until the destruction of their plant by fire in 1901. August 1, 1902, he was made game warden, which office he held until 1908, when he organized the Tomah Manufacturing Company.

A Republican in political views, he takes an active interest in the affairs of his party. In 1910 he was elected mayor of the city of Tomah, and dispatched the business of this office to the entire satisfaction of the citizens and with honor to himself. He was a delegate to the state convention in 1902 and takes an active interest in local and state politics.

Mr. Easly is a man of fine social qualities, generous, kind hearted and genial, and popular in the social circles of Tomah. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, a member of the Blue Lodge, No. 172. His mother is still living at the age of seventy-one, and makes her home with her son at Tomah. Her fine mental endowments and high ideals in life make her a favorite among her wide circle of friends.

Edgar H. Eddy. To attempt to write a reliable history of Monroe county and not give prominent mention to the name of Edgar H. Eddy would be something altogether impossible, for as almost a continuous resident of the county for so long a period he has very properly come to be regarded as a part of it. He was born in Vermont, December 16, 1824, the son of Royal and Sally (Joy) Eddy, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively. They married in Vermont, where they spent several years in Chittenden county, removing to St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1854. Royal Eddy, father of Edgar, was a son of Samuel Eddy, who lived first in Bennington county, Vermont, and who later went to Ohio in an early day, encountering many hardships incident to pioneer life, and there lived and died. Sally Joy, mother of our subject, was the daughter of David Joy, a descendant of an old and prominent family of Massachusetts. Edgar H. Eddy left St. Lawrence county, New York, in the spring of 1854 for the state of Wisconsin. He went first by team to Ogdensburg,

N. Y., thence from there by water to Lewiston, and from there he again traveled on to Buffalo by team, where he took passage by boat for Monroe, Mich. Arriving at the last named place, he traveled by rail to Chicago, and again went forth by way of Lake Michigan to Milwaukee. On his arrival there he secured a team and started overland for Monroe county, arriving at Sparta on June 20, 1854, and first stopped with Andrews Lyman, who ran the old Globe hotel, which stood where the Sparta Library now stands. A few days later he proceeded to Beaver Creek, in Sparta township, and located on section 3 on what is now known as the Shattuck farm and near the now famous Castle Rock, the top of which at that time was covered with red cedar trees. There was but one house then between Sparta and his claim. He first built a small shack for a house and began life in the then new country. That same season, however, he erected a frame house and began clearing the timber and making other improvements. Royal Eddy, his father, had preceded him one year to this locality in 1853 and preempted a half section of government land. On the arrival of Mr. Eddy he and his brother George entered a quarter section of wild land in 1854. At the end of the first year they had cleared eight acres. At that time the hills and forests were abundant with wild game, which furnished plenty of subsistence; at the end of the second year Mr. Eddy sold his interest to his brother and proceeded to the lumber woods near Witterville, Wis., where he was employed for three years. At the end of that time he returned to Monroe county and located on a rented farm in Big creek, known as the Harr farm; after spending two years on that place he moved to Sparta and at the breaking out of the Civil War he enlisted in Company A, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and was mustered into the service in December, 1862, and served on the frontier west of the Mississippi and for two years was among the Bushwhackers of Missouri and Kansas. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war and mustered out in February, 1865, and returned to Monroe county and homesteaded a quarter section of land in sections 20 and 21 of Sparta township, where he cleared five acres and established the family home. He continued to clear and improve the land until he had fifty acres under cultivation and there continued to make his home until April 1, 1907, when he retired from active labor, and has since made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Walter Howard.

On June 20, 1849, Mr. Eddy was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Tucker, daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Church)

EDGAR H. EDDY

Tucker. To this union was born six children—Ella, who married Charles Amidon, is deceased; Royal lives in Hand county, S. D.; Sarah is the widow of Joseph Willard and resides at Salem, Ore.; Edgar N., of Sparta township; George is deceased, and Minnie, wife of Walter Howard, of Big Creek. Mrs. Eddy, who died August 16, 1890, at the age of fifty-six years, was a worthy helpmeet of her husband and shared the trials and hardships incident to pioneer life, and was held in high esteem by her wide circle of friends. Mr. Eddy is a man of quiet, unassuming manners, of strong physique, possessed of those sterling traits which win respect of the entire community. He is regarded as a man of great worth, and has always been a cordial supporter of the various enterprises of his town and county, and while he has nearly reached the four-score-and-ten mark, he is mentally strong and vigorous and delights in relating the incidents connected with his early life in Monroe county. He is broad and liberal in his views and is well posted on the topics of the day, and delights in the membership of the John W. Linn Post, G. A. R., of Sparta.

Since the foregoing was written Mr. Eddie died, on September 14, 1912.

Samuel D. Edwards, owner and proprietor of Sparta's modern and up-to-date bus line, was born at Cambria, Wis., March 20, 1858, the son of R. D. and Jane Edwards, who left Wales, their native country, in the early fifties for America. After arriving in this country they came to Wisconsin and settled first near Cambria, where they engaged in farming for several years, when Mr. Edwards took up the profession of school instructor, teaching schools in the vicinity of Cambria, Bangor, Portland and New Cambria. In 1877 he came to Sparta and was for a time employed in the Letson furniture store, after which he removed to Rockland, Wis., and entered the employ of the Northwestern Railway Company as depot agent, remaining in this position for several years. After leaving this position they moved to Harvard, Ill., where they both died—Mrs. Edwards in 1891, at the age of seventy years, and Mr. Edwards in 1893 at the age of seventy-six years.

Samuel D. Edwards is the second of a family of three children; the others are Jane, wife of A. C. Astrup, and resides at Madison, Wis., and Benjamin, who is agent for the Northwestern railway at Wales, Wis. Mr. Edwards was raised on a farm and received his education in the public schools and learned the carpenters' trade, which he followed together with other lines of employment until he began operating a bus line at Sparta, September 13,

1894. On October 1, 1895, he purchased the Hatch Bus Line and consolidated this and other lines with his own, and on November 6, 1905, he added the Hotel line, and in 1910 he built a concrete and brick barn, 50x100 feet, modern in every detail and stocked with twenty horses and seven buses. The equipment and service which Mr. Edwards has placed at the disposal of the public is the best to be found in any town in western Wisconsin.

On May 7, 1893, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage with Miss Nancy I. Nicholson, daughter of John and Nancy (Douglas) Nicholson, of Rockland, Wis., where both died. The Nicholson family were of English descent. The early ancestors in this country were residents of New York. Mrs. Edwards is one of a family of six children; the others are John, who lives at Watertown, S. D.; George, deceased; Jennie, the wife of Daniel Traverse, resides at Rockland, Wis.; Thomas, of Watertown, S. D., and Charles, deceased.

They have one daughter, Mollie, who is the wife of George Siedel, druggist of Sparta.

Louis Errickson, a progressive farmer and representative citizen of Portland township, was born August 6, 1841, in Norway. When he was ten years old his parents, Andrew and Nickoline (Larson) Errickson, came to this country from their native land with a family of five children. One child died during the voyage and was buried at sea. They settled in Racine county, Wisconsin, where the father was employed four years in a fanning mill factory. At the expiration of that time they moved to Monroe county, and for a time the father followed mechanical work in Portland township. He then purchased forty acres of land in section twenty-five, and commenced the life of a farmer, living there until 1858, when he moved to another forty-acre tract he had previously acquired, and there made his home during the remainder of his lifetime. He was progressive and industrious, and from time to time added to his original purchase until at his death, which occurred in 1899, at the age of eighty-three, he owned 180 acres of land in Portland township. He was a successful farmer and turned his attention to raising grain for market. The death of his wife, mother of our subject, occurred in 1875. They were members of the Lutheran church, and in public affairs he took an active and prominent part. He was chairman of the town board and treasurer for several terms, always interested in the affairs of the Republican party. They had a family of eleven children, three of whom are now (1912) living.

Louis Errickson received his education in the common schools of his native town and also in America, which he attended until he was fifteen years old. At the age of twenty he enlisted for service in the Civil War, in Company E, Fifteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. After serving six months with this regiment he was discharged on account of disability. In 1863 he again enlisted, this time in Company F, First Wisconsin Cavalry, and participated in many lively battles, among them being the battle of Resaca, Dallas, Calhoun, Big Shanty mountain, Kenesaw mountain in front of Atlanta, Georgia, Jonesboro and many other engagements and skirmishes, and after two years of honorable service he was discharged in 1865 and returned to his home in Wisconsin, and until 1880 was employed on the farm. He then purchased a farm of 160 acres in section thirty-six, town of Portland, near the village of Cashton, on which he has made many improvements and since resided. In 1898 he built his modern residence and substantial outbuildings; in 1912 he erected a large and commodious barn, 36x80 feet, with 16-foot posts and basement 8 feet high, sheeted with oak, covered with galvanized iron, accommodating thirty head of cattle and six horses, and he will soon build a large silo in connection. This is the finest barn in the township. His farm is well supplied with modern machinery and labor-saving devices, and well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs. Mr. Errickson uses the most up-to-date methods in his farming operations and is also engaged in the raising of live stock and dairy business. He is one of the well-to-do and public spirited men of his town and takes an active interest in public affairs. He has been treasurer of his town and is an ardent supporter of any movements pertaining to the betterment of his community.

On January 7, 1880, he was married in the town of Portland to Miss Helen Hansen Sveum, daughter of Hansen Sveum, a native of Norway, and early settler of Vernon county Wisconsin. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Errickson, viz.: Laura, born October 6, 1880, is now Mrs. John Benrud, of Vernon county; Amanda, born January 27, 1884, married Melvin Wang, of Cashton, and has two children. Henry, born October 20, 1887, received his education in the common schools and the Cashton High School, graduating from the latter institution in the class of 1906, after which he spent two years at St. Olf College at Northfield, Minn., and graduated from the agricultural department of the Wisconsin State University in 1912. Mr. and Mrs.

Errickson have one adopted child, Fryda. In religious matters they are members of the Lutheran church.

Martin Errickson, oldest brother of Louis, was a member of Company H, Fifteenth Wisconsin Infantry, having enlisted in 1861, and served until the close of the war. He was with his regiment in the battles of Island No. 10, Union City, Murfreesboro, and was taken prisoner at Chickamauga and confined in Libby prison, and was one of the 110 who tunneled out and made their escape. He was recaptured and sent to Belle Island, and finally transferred to Andersonville, and was there until the close of the war. After his return to Monroe county he engaged in business at Sparta with W. H. Blyton, and while in partnership with him built a brick block, where he continued in business until his death in 1868, at the age of twenty-nine years, the primary cause of which was a wound received at Murfreesboro.

Martin Erickson. In 1866 there came from Norway, their native land, John and Karn O. (Larsdater) Erickson, with a family of five children, who, after their arrival in America came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled in the town of Portland and homesteaded 160 acres of land in section four, and there established a family home and lived until 1906, when the father sold the farm and moved to Leon, where he now resides in retirement, enjoying the well-earned fruits of his years of toil.

On the homestead farm in Portland Martin Erickson was born November 2, 1869. He attended the district schools during his boyhood and remained on the home farm until he reached his majority, and then leased the farm from his father, and for a short time engaged in farming on his own account. In 1893 he purchased ninety acres of unimproved land in section twenty-two, Leon township; here he erected a small house, where he lived until 1903, then built a modern ten-room house, and in 1909 a commodious barn 36x56 feet, which, with other buildings and substantial improvements, makes one of the up-to-date country homes of the township. In his farming operations he uses the most modern methods and is a successful breeder of Guernsey cattle, and has raised leaf tobacco for several years. In connection with this he carries on an extensive dairy business from his herd of fifteen milch cows which produces a handsome revenue each year.

On November 18, 1890, in the town of Portland, Mr. Erickson was married to Miss Mary Anderson, daughter of Gullic Anderson. They had a family of six children, of whom five are now (1912) living, viz.: Evangeline, born April 4, 1894; Gilmer, born

April 5, 1896; Otis, born September 14, 1898; Louise, born February 14, 1901, and Walter, born December 17, 1903. In religious affiliations Mr. and Mrs. Erickson are members of the Lutheran church, and in politics he is a strong progressive Republican.

Albert E. Evenson,* a native of Monroe county, was born in the town of Portland, February 23, 1872. He is a son of Martin and Maria (Ericson) Evenson, natives of Norway. It was in the early fifties that Martin Evenson, father of our subject, came to America and first settled in Wabasha county, Minnesota, where his wife died. After two years he came to the town of Portland and homesteaded 160 acres. He afterwards disposed of this land and purchased a farm of John W. Jones in the Fish Creek valley, which he later sold, moving to Leon, where he now resides. His birth occurred in Norway, where also his wife, the mother of our subject, was born. Mr. Evenson, the father of our subject, was twice married, and to the first union ten children were born, seven of whom are living, and to the second marriage two children were born.

Albert E. attended the common school until his seventeenth year, and at an early age began as a farm laborer at twenty-five cents per day. He soon after received employment as section hand on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway for a period of fifteen months, when his wages were increased. In 1895 he located on the farm of his grandfather, Andrew Evenson, where he resided for two years, when he removed to Leon, where he was employed on the farm of W. H. Davis for eight years, then removed to the Fred Swartzlow farm near Leon, and there resided for three years, thence to what is known as the Aylesworth farm, where he remained until 1908, when he purchased the farm of forty acres formerly owned by Mr. Aylesworth, where he now resides, and to which he has added valuable improvements, tilling the soil to the best advantage, rebuilt the residence, built a silo and made several other additions.

Our subject is a Progressive Republican and a great admirer of Senator LaFollette. He and his estimable wife are members of the Lutheran church, and in fraternal matters he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has held the office of tax supervisor for three years and has been chairman of the town of Leon for seven years. On December 11, 1895, he was married at Cashton to Miss Mary Ann Gilbertson. Two children have been born to this union, viz.: Herbert W., born December 1, 1896, and Lela J., born April 13, 1906.

Leo B. Evenson, a popular clothier of Sparta, is a product of Minnesota, and was born at Lanesboro, Fillmore county, April 7, 1881, the son of Emil and Mary (Vieth) Evenson, natives of Wisconsin and Minnesota, respectively. The father died in May, 1887, at the age of thirty-two years, leaving the mother and two children, Leo B. and his sister Mildred, wife of W. W. Card, all residents of Sparta.

Supplementing his public school education with a course at the Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis., Mr. Evenson began his career as a clothing merchant in the employ of Dodge & Davis, in 1901, continuing in this position for two and a half years. He then engaged in the same line of business with George Grossman, under the name of Leo Evenson Clothing Company, which later merged into the Pickwick Clothes Shop, the Sparta establishment being one of a chain of stores operating in the various towns around Sparta, the holding company being known as the Grossman Wardrobe Company. The Sparta store was the first one organized in 1909, and is one of the chain of stores. The Tomah store is under the charge of W. W. Card, and the store at Elroy is operated by Louis Larson, all of which are operated by the holding company under the name of the Pickwick Clothes Shops. The company is composed of the following named gentlemen: George Grossman, president, treasurer and general manager; Leo B. Evenson, vice-president and assistant general manager; W. W. Card, secretary. The directors are: Dr. W. T. Sarles, C. M. Masters, William McBride, Dr. Carl Beebe, Harry Masters, George Grossman and Leo B. Evenson.

Mr. Evenson is one of the wide-awake and progressive clothing men of this section, and his broad experience in the line has fitted him for the position he now occupies. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is active in the social circles of Sparta.

On February 12, 1905, he was married to Miss Julia Cholvin, daughter of Samuel Cholvin, a resident of Wilton, Monroe county. Mr. and Mrs. Evenson have three children, viz.: Elizabeth, Virginia and Eleanor.

W. J. Ferries, a native son of Monroe county, was born on the ridge in Wilton township, on July 9, 1862, the son of W. H. and Margaret (Harland) Ferries, both natives of Wales. In the early fifties the father came to America with his parents, and W. J. Ferries, grandfather of our subject, homesteaded a quarter section of land on the ridge, and was one of the earliest settlers in Wilton township. His brother, who came with him to America,

also took a homestead of 160 acres. The great-grandfather was a farmer and hotel keeper and established the first hotel in Ridgeville, where the tourist and newcomer were treated to his hospitality. His son, father of our subject, who was his chief aid, managed the farm while he attended to the hotel business and was generally successful in his undertakings and was well known over the county as a kind-hearted, generous and public spirited man, highly respected by the entire community where he lived. In the cultivation of his wild land he used nine yoke of oxen to turn the sod. He lived on his farm for many years and finally sold the land and moved to Tomah, where he died in 1882. He had a family of three children, one of whom still (1912) survives, two sons deceased, and one daughter, Elizabeth, now living at Norwalk, at the age of seventy-five years.

W. H., father of our subject, was twice married, first to Margaret Harland in 1853, by whom seven children were born, five sons and two daughters, five of whom are now living. Mrs. Ferries died in 1881, and two years later he married for his second wife Mrs. Catherine Pratt, who died in 1904. The father operated a threshing machine for about twenty-five years, and became well known all over the county as a high-minded and upright man. He acquired a farm of 160 acres in Wilton township and was also engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in the village of Wilton until 1898, where he resided and died in 1905. He was a staunch Democrat and was always active in the affairs of his party. He served as chairman of the town board for six years and was for many years a director of the schools. He was a thirty-second degree Mason and was considered one of the most popular and well-known men of the county.

W. J. Ferries, our subject, had the advantages of the district schools up to his eighteenth year, and remained on the home farm. On September 7, 1890, he was married to Miss Gusta Popp, daughter of Herman and Carrie Popp. Three children have been born to them, viz.: Lillian M., who graduated from high school in 1910 and is also a graduate of the Wisconsin Business University at LaCrosse, 1911, was born May 4, 1891; Vilas, who is also a high school graduate, was born July 4, 1892, and Vern, born November 23, 1895.

August Fetkenheuer,* a prosperous farmer who lives on section twenty-four, Adrian township, is a son of John and Marie (Ratke) Fetkenheuer, who spent their lives in Germany, where our subject was born August 23, 1856. He attended the common schools of his native town from the age of six to fourteen years,

and was variously employed in the city of Staten until 1887, when he emigrated to the United States. Arriving in this country he first settled at Baltimore, and after a time came to Wisconsin and to Hillsboro, Vernon county, where he remained but three months, when he went to the city of Tomah, and for ten years was in the employ of the Goodyear Lumber Company. In 1897 he purchased his present farm of 160 acres, ten of which he cleared, built two barns, granary and a comfortable residence. He has improved the land by cultivation and has made a most creditable showing for the years spent on the farm, using in his operations the most improved methods. Besides general farming, Mr. Fetkenheuer has always been a successful raiser of fine stock, and at this time his favorites are the Holstein breed of cattle.

He was married in November, 1880, to Miss Louisa Fick, also a native of Staten, Germany. The children born to this union are William, who resides at Two Rivers, Wis., is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, having served in the hospital corps of the Third Wisconsin Regiment; Frank is deceased; Paul A. lives on the homestead farm; Emma married Louis Herwig, of Wonowoc, Wis.; Edith is deceased; Anna, wife of Henry E. Zellmar, Adrian township; Amanda, at home; Arthur, deceased, and Otto A., at home.

Besides being intensely interested in the affairs of his town Mr. and Mrs. Fetkenheuer are members of the German Lutheran church of Tomah.

Herman M. Flock, one of the wealthy farmers of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, is the son of Matt and Elizabeth (Lang) Flock, both natives of Germany. Herman was born August 27, 1868, in Ridgeville, this county. Matt Flock came to America with his parents in 1857 and located in Monroe county, where they homesteaded 160 acres of land and were among the first settlers of that locality. Here they lived for many years and the father died on August 15, 1880, and the mother on January 29th, about eight years later. They had a family of six children and were considered one of the leading pioneer families. Matt, with the others, received a good common school education and worked at farming all his life. He is now a prosperous general farmer and lives in Norwalk. He was married at Watertown, Wis., in 1867, and they had a family of twelve children, nine of whom are now, 1912, living.

Herman is the oldest of the family, and like his father, has always followed the occupation of farming. He was married in Sparta on May 7, 1895, to Miss Barbara Schmitz, and they have

had a family of eight children, seven of whom are now living: Matt, William, Alios, Freddie, Elizabeth, Joseph and Elnora. After his marriage Mr. Flock rented a farm for one year, and in 1901 he purchased 160 acres in section thirty-one, in the town of Ridgeville. His residence was built in 1886 and in 1902 he erected a new barn, which adds greatly to the prosperous appearance of his farm. He keeps the best grade of stock and uses the most up-to-date methods in conducting it. He is a Democrat in politics and has been supervisor for some time, and served also as chairman of the town board of Ridgeville for four years.

Mr. Flock is a good general farmer and well liked by his neighbors.

Charles L. Flume, who resides in section thirty-two, Lafayette township, is pre-eminently a self-made man. Starting out in life with nothing but his native ability, he has risen from obscurity to a place of prominence among the enterprising and influential citizens of Monroe county, and is widely known as the successful owner and proprietor of "Clover Dale Farm," which is unexcelled, if equalled, by any other farm in the county. A native of La Crosse county, Wisconsin, he was born May 6, 1859, the son of Carl and Kate (Schladger) Flume, natives of Germany, who came to the United States, he in 1848, and she in 1856. When he first arrived in America he was engaged for a time in the copper mines on the Eagle river, but later settled in La Crosse county, and where his wife also settled, and where they were married. They were among the early settlers of that locality and among the best class of pioneers. He lived to the age of seventy-one years, and died in 1893. His wife, mother of our subject, survived until 1903, when she passed away at the age of sixty-eight years. They raised a family of six children, Charles L. being the eldest. The others are: Kate, who is the wife of Frank Kiel, of La Crosse county; Josephine, wife of Peter Haas, lives in La Crosse county; Minnie, resides in Indianapolis; William, also of La Crosse county, and Mary, of Minneapolis.

Charles L. was raised on his father's farm, attending the common schools and assisting in the farm work until he became of age. He then went to Spink county, Dakota, where he remained one year. Returning to La Crosse county, at the end of that time, he was employed at farm work for the next seven years. Thrifty and economical, he saved his earnings until he had accumulated $1,200, and at the age of twenty-nine purchased his first farm of 220 acres, in Greenfield township, La Crosse county, where he made his home until 1900, when he removed to

the Morse farm, which he had purchased the same year and which contained 620 acres, and has been known for many years as the "Clover Dale Farm." He has since sold to the United States government 280 acres, which forms a part of the government range in Monroe county. He is thoroughly systematic and up-to-date in his operations and his farm, which is highly cultivated and handsomely improved and equipped, and well stocked with horses and registered Durham cattle, of which he is one of the leading breeders in the county. He carries on general farming and dairying, and in addition to his blooded Durham cattle he raises Poland China hogs. Mr. Flume is a hard working man who has made his way in the world by persevering and persistent effort, and by his straightforward, manly life maintains the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

On January 17, 1888, Mr. Flume was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Kiel, daughter of Fred Kiel, a prominent citizen of La Crosse county, and a native of Bavaria. To Mr. and Mrs. Flume have been born five children. J. F. carries on 160 acres of the home farm which he rents from his father; Georgia E. resides at La Crosse; Viola, Forrest and William L. reside at home.

In politics the subject is a Democrat. While he has been offered public office at the hands of his party he has never accepted.

Nelson J. Forrest, of section 6, La Grange township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born here on January 4, 1868, the youngest of a family of four children born to Thomas N. and Martha (Edgerton) Forrest. Of the others, Elizabeth is the wife of J. W. Taft, of Hood River, Ore.; Harriet is the wife of Jacob Vandervort, of La Grange township, and Charles W., who resides at Grand Rapids, Minn. The father, who was a native of Scotland, came to Whitewater, Wis., when he was twenty-one years of age. He later went to Walworth county, thence to Monroe county in 1855, and settled on the farm of 153 acres where our subject now resides. He was married November 6, 1859, to Martha Edgerton, a native of Connecticut, and daughter of Charles and Mary Edgerton, who came west to Wisconsin in an early day and first located in Jefferson county. From there they came to Monroe county in 1856, and spent the balance of their lives experiencing the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life in La Grange township.

Thomas N. Forrest was one of Monroe county's most influential citizens, straightforward and honorable in all his dealings, and a man with many warm friends. He had one brother, William

Forrest, who came to Wisconsin from Scotland, and settled at Whitewater, Wis., where he spent the balance of his life. His widow, whose maiden name was Huldah Rawson, still survives. Mrs. Forrest, mother of our subject, is a charming lady, and one of three survivors of a family of twelve children; the others are Frank Edgerton, of La Grange township, and Caroline, widow of William Sayre. He was a native of New York state and in about 1879 came to Monroe county, locating in section five, La Grange township, on a farm of eighty acres, consisting mostly of unimproved land, and for a time lived near the present homestead. He started to improve his land and first built a log house, which was replaced with a modern one, where his widow and son, Clarence M. Sayre, now reside. Mrs. Sayre was born in 1831 and at the age of more than four score years is well preserved and enjoys good health. Mr. Sayre, after a long and busy life, died at the age of eighty-four years.

Nelson J. Forrest was reared on the home farm and received his education in the district schools and early devoted his time and attention to farming and the management of the homestead where he has spent his entire life. He carries on general farming, dairying and stock raising, and makes a specialty of Duroc-Jersey hogs. The farm is under a high state of cultivation and the place is well improved with a good barn erected in 1903 and a modern residence erected in 1909, with outbuildings to correspond. He takes an active interest in local matters; has been treasurer of the town, supervisor two terms, and is now serving his third term as assessor. He is president of the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company and is a well-to-do and progressive man of affairs. He was married February 17, 1892, to Miss Julia Mininger, a native of Waukesha, Wis., and a resident of La Grange township. They have an interesting family of six children, viz.: Guy N., Gladys J., valedictorian of the 1912 class of the Tomah high school; Raymond T. and Leroy C., twins; Ruth E., and Chester W. Forrest.

Fred M. Foster, the popular and enterprising photographer of Sparta, a lifelong resident of that city, was born June 25, 1862, the son of Hiram and Julia A. (Harvey) Foster, natives of Cattaraugus county, New York, and who early came to Sparta, where he built the Globe Hotel, the first frame building erected in Sparta and which stood on the ground now occupied by the Carnegie library. He later engaged in farming in Sparta township, which he continued for several years, where he died in 1889 at the age of seventy years. His widow, mother of our subject,

died in 1899. He has always taken a commendable interest in the affairs of his town and county and served as treasurer of his township. He is one of Sparta's most prominently and highly respected citizens. His father, Ezekiel Foster, was a native of Maine and followed his son to Monroe county, where he died.

Our subject, Fred M., was the fourth child of a family of four sons. The others are: Theodore, who resides at Santa Clara, Cal.; Orlando lives in Washington, and Edgar M. resides in Sparta. Fred was reared on his father's farm, attending the district schools and assisting in the farm work. When starting out in life for himself. His first employment was that as clerk in the Winship Hotel at Sparta, and later he became clerk at the Jewell Hotel, at Winona, Minn., remaining there until he became engaged in the photograph business with Richardson Brothers, of Sparta, this arrangement continuing until the fall of 1894, when he purchased the studio at No. 101 South Water street, which he has continued with unabating success.

Mr. Foster is a man of decided artistic tastes and has made a thorough study of photography in all its phases and branches, and is recognized as a most skillful expert and operator in his class of art. His studio is a perfect model in all its appointments, equipped as it is with every facility and appliance for turning out the highest class of work, producing portraits on platinum, in water colors, sepia, etc., with every variety and style of finish and mounting.

Mr. Foster is a member of the Northwestern and the National Photographers' Associations, and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. He was appointed captain and commissary of the Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, April 7, 1912. He was married April 19, 1887, to Miss Georgie A. Wise, daughter of G. A. Wise, of Michigan. They have one child, Gerald L. Foster.

Mrs. Louise B. Fox, widow of the late Benjamin F. Fox, was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, April 28, 1834. Her parents were natives of New Jersey and the father by trade was a cooper and also followed farming. He was born in 1800 and died in 1884. The mother of Mrs. Fox was born in 1811 and died in 1867. They moved from New Jersey to Milan, O., where they lived for a short time, then moved to Huron county, that state, and lived for sixteen years. They had a family of seven children, three of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Mrs. Fox, whose maiden name was Louise Be Dell; Edwin Be Dell, born June 24, 1836, and Jonathan N. Be Dell, born February 22, 1851, makes his

home with his sister, Mrs. Fox, and looks after her business interests. He was formerly a resident of Oakland, Cal., a man of fine education and experienced in school teaching.

Mrs. Fox is a member of the Congregational church, a devoted Christian worker, and all charitable subjects receive her support.

Benjamin F. Fox, deceased, was born April 11, 1821, at Milan, Erie county, Ohio. In 1854 he came west to Wisconsin and located in the Leon valley, Monroe county, and purchased 120 acres of school land one and one-half miles from the village of Leon. He was married March 18, 1858, to Miss Louise Be Dell at Norwalk, O. One son, George Collins Fox, was born to them in Monroe county, December 16, 1858, and died in 1878. Starting out in life with little else than his native ability, Mr. Fox by thrift, perseverance, hard work and good management succeeded in accomplishing the greater part of his undertakings, and at the time of his death was enjoying the fruits of his labors in comfortable circumstances. He improved his farm and soon after his marriage built a modest residence, which was later replaced with a large and commodious residence, where they lived until 1905, and then purchased the comfortable home in the village of Leon, where he passed away in 1909, and where his widow now (1912) resides. He was a successful general farmer and one of the substantial and representative men of Monroe county, and owned at the time of his death 200 acres of land in Leon valley. He was a typical American, self-educated, a great student and much interested in all matters of public importance; a man of sound judgment, whose influence was felt by his neighbors and friends. He was strictly temperate in all things, never used tobacco in any form, and was an active member of the Congregational church, to which he contributed liberally. He was superintendent of the Sunday school and all worthy charitable objects found in him a liberal supporter. A Republican in politics, he was active in the affairs of his party and held nearly all of the minor offices of his town.

Benson S. Fox, of Leon, is the son of George W. and Candice (Lee) Fox, and was born at New Hartford, Minn., February 4, 1864, and is the eldest in a family of three children, all sons, who are now living. The father came from Ohio in an early day and settled at New Hartford, Minn., where he was married in 1863, and in 1873 removed to the town of Leon in Monroe county. By hard work, thrift and economy he acquired 280 acres of land and there lived until his death, which occurred August 30, 1911. His widow, mother of our subject, still survives at the age of sixty-

eight years. He was a man of much force and highly respected by the citizens of his community. He was moral and upright and gained many friends by his honest dealings, and was one of the most respected and highly esteemed citizens of Leon. He served as a member of the town board, was school director for many years, and assessor for two years. The paternal ancestors of our subject came over with William Penn and settled in Massachusetts. Peter Clow, the grandfather of the subject's mother, was a soldier in the war of 1812. Grandfather Lee lived in Canada during the French and Indian war, and because he refused to take up arms against the United States he was forced to leave Canada and removed to New York, the English government confiscating all his property. After the war he returned to Canada but failed in his efforts to regain his property. He emigrated to Minnesota when the mother of our subject was thirteen years old, going overland with ox team from Rockford, Ill., where the family had lived a short time. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1820, and died in 1904. The grandmother was born in 1822 and died in 1872. He enlisted in 1862 during the Civil War in Company D, Seventh Regiment, Minnesota Volunteers, and served until the close of the war.

Benson S. attended the public schools until his seventeenth year and remained at home until he became of age. He was married December 4, 1884, to Miss Aurella Smith at Sparta, the daughter of Alcander and Catherine Smith. To this union were born three children, of whom two are now living, viz.: Herbert L., born September 25, 1885, and B. Earl, born June 24, 1895. Mrs. Fox died January 17, 1912. The farm, which was homesteaded and owned by Mr. Smith, father of Mrs. Fox, was purchased by Mr. Fox and he there made his home for twenty-five years, successfully engaged in farming, and where he made many of the valuable improvements. Mr. Fox for many years has taken an active interest in the affairs of his town, and has held many local offices. For twenty years he was school director, has been supervisor and assessor, and for nine years treasurer of the town, and is the present incumbent. An extract from the La Crosse Tribune says of him: "Ben Fox, treasurer of the town of Leon, has made his annual settlement with County Treasurer Babcock, and again presents a book clean of all delinquents, not a dollar being returned on either real estate or personal property. His total roll amounted to $10,060.79. This is the tenth year that Mr. Fox has served as the treasurer of the town of Leon, and for the past six years he has collected all the taxes on the roll."

In politics Mr. Fox is a La Follette Republican, and takes an active interest in the affairs of his party. He has served two years as justice of the peace. On February 28, 1909, he moved into the village of Leon, where he owns considerable property besides his commodious residence where he now resides.

Capt. Frank Lyon French, who has attained to a prominent position among the military men of the country, is a product of Monroe county, Wisconsin, and was born October 29, 1862, the son of Jacob Jewell and Elizabeth C. (Lyon) French, natives of East Jeffery, N. H., and Benton Center, N. Y., respectively. In 1860 Jacob J. French removed from his native state to Wisconsin and settled in La Fayette township, Monroe county. Here he remained until 1866, when he moved into the city of Sparta and embarked in the grocery business, and in 1868 he engaged in hop and stock raising, and still later was engaged with the firm of French & King from 1870 to 1886, who were extensive dealers in hops and live stock. During the administration of President Cleveland, Mr. French was, in 1886, appointed postmaster of Sparta, and continued to dispatch the duties of this office for five years. His next business venture was in the fruit business, which continued to be his occupation until his death, which occurred on February 7, 1903, in his eighty-fifth year, he having been born August 24, 1818. He took an active part in all matters pertaining to the betterment of his city and county, was prominent in business and social life, and was at one time president of the village board, city treasurer and promoter of Sparta's North park. In 1872 he held the honor of being the champion rifle shot of the United States, and was an active member of the original Masonic lodge in Sparta.

Elizabeth C. Lyon French, mother of our subject, was born July 14, 1845, and died April 28, 1902. She was the youngest of a family of six children, one of whom, James R. Lyon, of Kendall, a pioneer of Monroe county, is still living. Those deceased besides Mrs. French are: John C., Myran F. and Harriet C., wife of Rev. J. R. Jaques.

Samuel C. Lyon, maternal grandfather of Frank L., was born in the state of New York in July, 1800, and was one of the first settlers in the town of Glendale, Monroe county, Wisconsin. He died November 5, 1873. His wife, Lois Elizabeth Kendall Lyon, maternal grandmother of our subject, was born in August, 1802, and died May 4, 1873. She married Samuel C. Lyon, at Benton Center, N. Y., in 1824.

Jacob Jewell French, father of Frank Lyon French, was a son

of Thomas French, Jr., of East Jeffery, N. H. His father, Thomas French, was a native of Dunstable, N. H. The mother of Thomas French, Jr., was Hannah Cummings, and the mother of Jacob Jewell French was Sophia Jewell, of Marlborough, Mass., and she was a daughter of Jacob Jewell, of England, and her mother, Polly Smith, came originally from Ireland.

Frank Lyon French was married September 25, 1897, to Miss Mabel Laura Masters, daughter of Bissill M. and Helen (Cross) Masters, of Sparta. The father of Mrs. French, Bissill M. Masters, was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1838, came west in 1865, was on the coast during the San Francisco earthquake in 1908, and is now a resident of Sparta. Mr. Masters was a son of John Masters, who was born April 4, 1805, and died in his one hundredth year. He traces his ancestors back to the Huguenots of France in 1562. His wife was Laura Bissill, born October 28, 1807. Mrs. Helen (Cross) Masters, the mother of Mrs. French, was born March 16, 1847, and died April 15, 1888. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. French was Andrew Cross, a native of New York state, who came to Sparta and who was at one time sheriff of his native county. He was born in October, 1804, and died February 11, 1878. His wife was Mary Moak, of New York, born August 11, 1810. Other members of this family were Katherine, born December 21, 1818; Emenzo, born March 31, 1824; John, born May 13, 1836; Alexander, born December 14, 1839; Virgene, born December 16, 1843, and Germane, born September 24, 1849. The children of Mr. and Mrs. French are Helen Elizabeth, born December 27, 1898; Virgene, born July 31, 1902; Kathryn Belle, born September 9, 1903. Mrs. French was graduated from the Sparta high school with the class of 1891.

Captain French was educated at the public schools of Sparta, and on October 13, 1879, began to learn telegraphy at Viroqua, Wis., and followed that vocation until November 5, 1880, when he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company as telegrapher at the Sparta station, continuing here until May 11, 1881, when he entered the service of the Northwestern Railway Company in the train dispatcher's office in November, 1882, at Huron, S. D., and in December of the same year was transferred to Pierre, S. D., in charge of the Western Union, Chicago & Northwestern, and the government telegraph lines, continuing here until July 8, 1883, when he made a trip to the Black Hills, thence to northwestern Wyoming and the Montana buffalo range, where he remained until December 15, 1883,

when he returned to Sparta, but soon after went to Glendale and took charge of a store of general merchandise for J. R. Lyon, remaining here until October, 1886. He was then appointed assistant postmaster of Sparta, under his father, in November of that year, continuing in that capacity until December, 1891, when he engaged in the book and stationery business in Sparta, which he followed for seven years, or until April 28, 1898, when he entered the service of the United States in the Spanish-American war as first lieutenant of Company L, Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard Volunteers, and was made captain September 13, 1898. He served with his regiment through the Porto Rican campaign until January 11, 1899, when he was mustered out with his regiment. He was appointed captain of the Thirty-fourth United States Volunteers, July 5, 1899, by President McKinley, and entered upon his two years' service in the Philippines. He was promoted to battalion commander August 11, 1900, and discharged with his regiment April 17, 1901, when he returned to Sparta, where he was engaged in the fruit business until September 1, 1904, he was appointed mail agent for the rural route service. He has been commander of the American post of Spanish-American war veterans, and a member of Valley Lodge No. 16, A. F. & A. M., since 1891.

Captain French was a member of the local militia company from August 31, 1887, to May 11, 1898. During that time he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, his duties consisting of general instructions in shooting. He was a member of the state rifle team for several years and attended several interstate shoots. He also won the General King revolver for best revolver shot. The military record of Captain French, which follows, is one that he may justly be proud of:

Recommended by Maj. J. A. Penn, Thirty-fourth Infantry, U. S. V., for commission as major by brevet for gallant and meritorious services in action at Tangnadan mountain, December 4, 1899, and in pursuit of General Tinios' forces, December 5 to 11, 1899. Actions at Bandi, December 8; Banna Canon, December 9; also recommended he be commissioned lieutenant-colonel by brevet for especially hazardous and meritorious services in the rescue of Lieutenant Gilmore, U. S. navy, and twenty-five American prisoners, etc., December, 1899. Approved by Lieut.-Col. Robert L. Howze and Gen. S. B. M. Young.

Expeditions: General Lawton's northern expedition, October, November and December, 1899; advance on Aliaga, November

9 to 11, 1899; Colonel Howze's expedition from Aliaga, Luzon, via Victoria and Rosales to Bautista, November 13 to 20, 1899; General McArthur's advance, Bautista to Dagupan, November 21 to 24, 1899; General Young's expedition up west coast of Luzon, November 25 to December 11; pursuit of General Tinio, December 5 to 11, 1899; Gilmore relief expedition, December 14, 1899, to January 3, 1900. Assisted in rescues: Pidigan Abra, December 6, 1899, 300 Spanish soldiers; Banquet, Abra, December 6, 1899, 1,100 Spanish soldiers; La Pax, Abra, December 8, 1899, three Americans; Dingras, I. N., December 10, 1899; General Pena, 450 Spanish officers and 450 Spanish soldiers; Salsona, I. N., December 10, 1899, 100 Chinese; Gaset, upper Abulug river, December 16, 1899, three Americans; Lannae, upper Abulug river, December 18, 1899, Lieutenant Gilmore, U. S. Navy, and nineteen Americans. Participated in captures: Dunlas, Abra, December 8, 1899, great quantity of arms and war material; Banquet, Abra, December 6, 1899, insurgent arsenal.

Battles: Tagnadin mountain, December 4, 1899.

Engagements: Bandi, Abra, December 8, 1899; Banna, Canon, December 9, 1899; Gaset, upper Abulug river, December 16, 1899; Marradong, I. N., February 14, 1900; Bulbullala, I. N., April 9, 1900; Ester, I. N., April 16, 1900; Laoag, I. N., April 17, 1900.

Skirmishes: La Pax, Abra, December 7, 1899; Caramine, near Banna, December 9, 1899; Salsona, I. N., December 10, 1899; Manintin, I. N., December 11, 1899; Cabagoin Grande, December 22, 1899; Caban Garang, I. N., January 14, 1901.

December 7, 1899, defeated insurgent forces at La Pax, Abra, killing General Quesada, insurgent paymaster, and captured his money and payrolls.

Just prior to his leaving the Orient for America, his command presented him with a handsome diamond ring.

Upon his return to Wisconsin from the Philippines he was presented with a beautiful solid gold medal by the state of Wisconsin. This medal was designed by Gov. J. O. Davidson and Gen. C. R. Boardman. Engraved on one side were the words: "Wisconsin—Distinguished Military Service," and on the reverse, "Presented to Capt. Frank L. French, Sparta, Wis., late of the Thirty-fourth U. S. V., by act of the Legislature, 1901." His Sparta friends presented him with a handsome gold-mounted sword and scabbard, with a sole-leather trunk case for same. Captain French was tendered a commission in the regular army by President McKinley, but decided to remain a citizen of Sparta.

Joseph Gasper, a successful farmer who resides in section seven, Portland township, was born in LaPorte county, Indiana, November 9, 1858. His parents, William and Lena (Green) Gasper, were natives of Germany, and after their marriage, came to Illinois and located in Chicago in 1848, which at that time was a small village. He first found employment in a brickyard, and after three years, moved to LaPorte county, Indiana, where he carried on farming for twelve years. In 1865 the family moved to La Crosse county, Wisconsin, and settled on 120 acres of wild land in Washington township which the father immediately set to work to clear and soon he erected a log house and some outbuildings which sufficed until the dawn of better days, and here they experienced the hardships of pioneer life and passed the remainder of their days. He died at Tunnel City, Monroe county, in 1886 at the age of seventy-four years, and Mrs. Gasper passed away in Washington township, La Crosse county, in 1882 at the age of sixty-three. They had a family of thirteen children, viz: Peter, deceased; John resides in Michigan City, Ind.; Mary, now Mrs. John Keefer, lives at Michigan City; Kate and Mary are deceased; Nicholas lives in Michigan City; Emma is deceased; Anna, wife of S. Strittmatter, of La Crosse county; William, of Adrian township; John, who was a twin brother of our subject, is deceased, as is also Elizabeth; John Henry is road master for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, resides at Chillicothe, Mo.

In 1882 Mr. Joseph Gasper was united in marriage with Miss Clara Brecht, daughter and fourth child in a family of five children born to John and Katherine Brecht, early settlers of La Crosse county. The others are Katherine, wife of Amil Moser, of Cripple Creek, Colo.; Anna, wife of August Hunt, deceased; Margaret, wife of C. F. Brown, resides at Desota, Wis., and John of La Crosse. To Mr. and Mrs. Casper have been born six children, viz: Laura, wife of Frank Zebell, of Portland township; Louisa, married Henry Whitehead, and resides at Bangor, La Crosse county; John, Frank J., William and Katherine reside at home.

Mr. Gasper received his education in the district school and remained on the home farm until twenty-four years of age when he started farming for himself on a rented farm. Seven years later he purchased 160 acres of land in Washington township, La Crosse county and after four years, in 1892, he disposed of his interests in La Crosse county and purchased his present farm of 160 acres, 120 of which is under a high state of culti-

vation. When Mr. Gasper first moved to his present farm, there were no buildings but an old log house; he has since erected a commodious dwelling, substantial barns, machinery shed, windmill and made other improvements. Besides general farming and dairying, he is engaged in raising Holstein-Fresian cattle and Poland-China hogs, and is one of the most progressive men of the community. At the age of eighteen Mr. Gasper started to run a threshing machine which he followed each season for seventeen years. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his township, has been supervisor for three years, chairman of the board one year, and treasurer for twelve years of school district number five and is now serving as clerk of school district number five of Portland township.

Emil Gerke,* who now resides on section nineteen, Sparta township, is one of the wide-awake and enterprising young farmers of Monroe county, was born in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, May 31, 1882, the son of Fred and Dorothy (Clements) Gerke. The father, a native of Germany, came to the United States when fifteen years of age, located in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, where he married, and there spent the greater part of his life engaged in farming. He was one of the representative citizens of La Crosse county, a kind father and husband, and at the time of his death, which occurred June 24, 1911, at the age of sixty years, held the confidence and esteem of his wide circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Gerke had a family of seven children, as follows: Frank lives at La Crosse, Con Peter is on the home farm, Louisa is the wife of Edward Smaltz, of Bangor, Wis.; Christina is the wife of Frank Kirschner, of La Crosse county; Emma is the wife of Charles Stark and resides in Sparta township; Sophia and Maggie reside at home with their mother.

Emil Gerke attended the district schools at La Crosse county, and remained on the home farm until he was fifteen years of age. During the next seven years he was variously employed at farm work, his last employer being William Cassel, who died on June 1, 1904, and in 1905, Mr. Gerke purchased the farm, which he has since successfully carried on, and has made extensive improvements. He has built a barn, 36 by 96 feet, erected a silo, windmill, and made other improvements. The land is under a high state of cultivation, from which he reaps an abundant harvest each year.

On July 24, 1906, Mr. Gerke was married to Miss Lena Leek, daughter of Fred and Amelia (Patz) Leek, of Sparta township. Mrs. Gerke died in November, 1911, leaving besides her worthy

husband, two children named Clara Amelia and Dorothy Hulda. In religious faith Mr. Gerke is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Sparta.

Henry F. Gerke, one of the influential and successful farmers of Ridgeville township, was born in Hanover, Germany, September 12, 1846, the son of H—— O. and Sophia (Klingo) Gerke. Mr. Gerke emigrated to America in 1866 and located first in Milwaukee, where he worked out at odd jobs, and made his home with his uncle, Gus Kling. He remained there three years, then came to Tomah and remained one year with a sister, then went to Olmstead county, Minnesota, where he remained for a time, then in 1871 returned to Monroe county and purchased 160 acres of land in section two, Ridgeville township; he later sold eighty acres of land to his brother, but since has acquired by purchase, additional acres until he now owns 320 acres in sections two and three.

Being thrown on his own resources at an early age, Mr. Gerke started out in life with nothing but his native ability, and has by hard work, thrift and economy worked his way to a commanding position of influence in his town. When he purchased the homestead, where he now resides, the land was raw and in a wild state; he erected a modest house in which he lived for fifteen years, and set diligently to work to clear and improve his land. He worked hard and overcame many obstacles, and in the end gained success. In 1909 he built a large and commodious residence, and with his large lawn and handsome shade trees, all set out with his own hands, his well built barn and outbuildings, makes his one of the ideal country homes in Ridgeville township. Mr. Gerke takes pride in making his farm one of the best in the county, and keeps it well stocked with Percheron horses and Durham cattle. He uses the latest up-to-date methods in his farming operations, and his place is well supplied with modern labor-saving devices. Mr. Gerke is one of the solid men of his town and is well known as one of the public spirited and successful citizens. He is active in all matters of interest in his community, and secretary of the German Mutual Insurance Company, which was organized in 1876, and incorporated in 1895. Its total assets are $8,990.37, and in every way on a sound foundation. Winand Mullenburg is its president. In politics Mr. Gerke is independent, while in religious matters he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Gerke was married at Oconomowoc, Wis., in October, 1871, to Miss Dorothy Winzenburg, whose parents also came from Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Gerke have a family of eight children, as

follows: Henry W., Lena, Rudolph, Hermenia, Fred, Mary, Ferdinand and Julius.

William H. Gerke, a successful German farmer of Wilton township, and owner of about 460 acres of fine farm land, is the son of Henry and Sophia (Cling) Gerke, natives of Germany, where the mother died, and William was born on June 5, 1856. He came to America with his father in 1869 and first located in Tomah, but after a short time moved to the town of Adrian and later to Ridgeville, where the father died in 1873. William worked as a farm hand and attended school until he was seventeen years old. He was a steady and economical young man, and through his faithful efforts, he managed to accumulate savings sufficient to purchase a 100 acre farm in Wilton township in 1877, to which he added from time to time, including a half section, which he purchased in North Dakota, until he now owns about 460 acres. He has made many lasting and valuable improvements on his farm in way of cultivation and buildings. In 1883 he erected a new modern residence and the following year a commodious barn and other outbuildings to correspond. He makes a specialty of dairying and raises the best grade of stock of all kinds. He is a Democrat in politics, was treasurer of the town of Wilton for two years, chairman of the board for four years, school treasurer for twenty-three years and a member of the Lutheran church.

On March 15, 1877, he was married in Wilton to Miss Caroline Behrens, daughter of Fred and Mina Behrens, both natives of Germany, who came to America in 1867 and located in Wilton on a farm of 140 acres in section five, where they lived until 1897; the mother died two years previous. Mrs. Gerke is one of a family of twelve children, two of whom are living. Her people were members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerke have had a family of twelve children, eleven of whom are living, viz.: Fred, born June 10, 1877; Gusta, born April 26, 1880; Lizzie, born October 13, 1882; Willie, born November 18, 1883; Carrie, born November 18, 1885; Julius, born August 8, 1887; Clara, born August 9, 1889; Albert, born October 12, 1891; Ida, born May 17, 1893; Johnny, born April 18, 1896, and Ella, born February 24, 1900.

Arthur N. Getman*, a progressive farmer of section nine, LaGrange township, is a native of Monroe county, and was born on the farm where he resides on August 23, 1868, the son of William and Fidelia (Vandervort) Getman, who were also natives of Wisconsin, having been born in Waukesha county, this state.

They came to Monroe county in 1866 and settled on the farm where our subject now resides. The farm at this time being mostly wild land, the father started to improve the place and establish the family home. He erected a small frame house, 16 x 20, which for a few years was used as a dwelling, which was afterwards remodeled and changed to a convenient and substantial residence. He cleared the timber and made other improvements as conditions and circumstances afforded, following his trade of shoemaker in the meantime. He was possessed of that thrift and progressive spirit common to his German-Scotch ancestry, and at the time of his death, which occurred on January 6, 1884, at the age of forty-two years, had his land under a good state of cultivation and was held in high esteem by his many friends. His widow still survives and is now the wife of M. L. Johnson, of LaGrange township. By a previous marriage to Al Featherly, she had one son, Albert Featherly, who now resides at Seattle, Wash. In the Getman family there are five children, viz.: Arthur N., Harry lives in Michigan, Frank resides at Tomah, Jennie is the wife of Pete Richerson, of Ohio, and Lester, who lives at Evanston, Ill.

Arthur N. spent his boyhood on his father's farm, attending the district school. He early found employment with the Goodyear Lumber Company and was thus employed by them and others for about seven years. In 1888 he purchased the homestead farm and has since continued to make that his home. He has cleared ten more acres, erected all the present buildings and otherwise made many lasting improvements. Mr. Getman is one of the hustling men of Monroe county and is wide awake to all matters pertaining to the betterment of his town and county. He has been school treasurer of his district for seven years; has been overseer of highways and is now serving as township treasurer. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

On January 27, 1891, Mr. Getman was married to Miss Hattie Steele, of Valley Junction, Wis. Their children are Deeda, wife of Harry Sucat, of Grant township; Katie, Jennie, Wallace, Edgar and Ruth Getman.

George Gilbertson*, one of the wide awake native sons of Monroe county, was born in the town of Leon, October 24, 1870, and is the son of Ole G. and Rebecca (Peterson) Gilbertson, both natives of Norway. The father came to America in 1865, and located in the Leon valley, where he worked as a farm laborer for three years. He then bought a homestead right to 160 acres of land, title to which he obtained from the

Government. There he made his home for forty-two years. In his family were nine children, eight of whom are now living, viz.: George, Mary, Anton, Oscar, Milton, Emma, Otto and Albert. He received a good common school education in his native country, was a great reader and kept himself well posted on all current events. In politics he was a Republican and a leader in the affairs of the party, and exerted a powerful influence in the Leon valley, and was an intimate friend of the Hon. John R. Jones, and the two were considered stalwarts. He was chairman of the Republican county convention and for many years chairman of the township committee, and was a delegate to many conventions. He held the office of assessor of the town of Leon for twenty years, and in religious matters he was affiliated with the Lutheran church, as is his widow. Born February 9, 1843, he died October 11, 1911. His wife, mother of our subject, was born December 11, 1846, and still survives.

George, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm and attended the district schools until he was fourteen years of age. He then found employment on the farm for $15 per month, and so well did he attend to the duties assigned him, his salary was soon raised to $18 and finally he received $25 per month. Being economical and saving he soon accumulated quite a sum of money which he placed in a bank at Sparta. During financial difficulties the bank failed and his earnings were lost, which necessitated his commencing anew, and by hard work and economy he soon overcame his misfortune. He started farming on his own account and for thirteen years worked a rented farm, at the end of that time, in 1911, he purchased 200 acres in the town of Leon, where he now resides. He is a progressive and successful general farmer and makes a specialty of raising a good grade of cattle and hogs, and is considered one of the well-to-do farmers of his section. In politics he is a Republican and takes an active interest in the affairs of the party, while in fraternal matters he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeoman.

He was married in Leon to Miss Ella Olson, daughter of Peter Olson. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson, viz.: Herman, born September 22, 1899; Chester, born January 24, 1901, and Roy, born August 2, 1904.

John H. Gilliland, who resides on his farm of 213 acres in the town of Leon, where he was born August 18, 1857, is a son of A. H. and Sarah (Sherlock) Gilliland, both natives of Ireland. The father came to America when a young

man and first located in the state of New York, where he was employed at farm work for several years, five years of the time being spent in the employ of one man. Beginning life as a poor boy he worked his way to independent circumstances. He left the state of New York for the West, going first to Iowa, but not finding that state satisfactory to his idea, he set out for Wisconsin. Taking boat at Dubuque he came up the river to La Crosse, and overland from the latter place to the Leon valley, arriving at his destination about 1850; being impressed with the then new country, he purchased 300 acres of land and set to work to improve its condition and establish a home. To his original purchase he added from time to time until he had acquired 720 acres, disposing of a part of the land, he owned at the time of his death, which occurred in 1885, 600 acres. He was married at about the time he came west and had a family of four children, two of whom are now living, viz.: Mary A., who is the widow of Dr. W. B. Morley, resides at Shell Lake, Wis., and John H., our subject. On arriving in the Leon valley he built a small shanty on the river, where his family lived, until circumstances permitted of the erection of a comfortable residence close to the village, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a successful farmer and breeder of cattle, hogs and sheep, and during his lifetime took an active interest in politics, being an active worker in the ranks of the Democratic party. His educational advantages were limited, but by constant reading, became self-educated and was well posted on all live subjects of the day. His wife, mother of our subject, who was a lady of many womanly virtues, died in September, 1883, loved and respected by her large circle of friends.

John H. attended the district school until he was twenty years old, and spent one winter in the public schools of Sparta. He remained with his parents until their decease, and then remained on the homestead farm for a time, and on August 23, 1887, was married at Sparta to Miss Elizabeth Lennon. Mr. Gilliland's farm of 213 acres, lies three-quarters of a mile from the village of Leon, and is one of the good farms of this valley. He is one of the successful and progressive general farmers of that town, and his modern residence, erected in 1890, and substantial barn, built in 1895, together with other improvements, makes his one of the splendid country homes of the valley. In politics a Democrat; he is active in the affairs of his party and has held several local offices. He has been town clerk, and for several years school treasurer.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gilliland have been born three children, viz.: Carl Glenn, a graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy, now ensign on the battleship Arkansas; John Forrest, at home, and Margaret E. Gilliland.

Mrs. Lizzie Gilliland, wife of Albert E. Gilliland, deceased, and a daughter of Henry Van Etten, of Monroe county, was born December 12, 1868, in the town of Leon. She was educated in the common schools of the county, and was married in 1890 at the age of twenty-two years to Albert E. Gilliland. To them were born four children, three of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Roy A., born February 19, 1894; Alexander, born August 4, 1901, and Hazel, born January 11, 1907.

Albert E. Gilliland was a son of A. H. and Sarah (Sherlock) Gilliland, natives of Ireland. He was born September 18, 1860, in Leon, Wis. His education was acquired in the common schools and at La Crosse Business College. He was reared on his father's farm and remained with his parents during their lifetime. His mother died in 1883 and the death of his father occurred October 29, 1885.

Mr. Gilliland was one of the solid, enterprising and successful general farmers of Leon, and took pride in breeding and raising good horses, and his farm of 300 acres, 140 acres of which was under a good state of cultivation and improved with a substantial residence and outbuildings. He stood high in his community and enjoyed the confidence of all who knew him. He was an honorable, upright citizen, fond of his home and family, and his death, which occurred August 1, 1911, was mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Rev. John George Glaeser, pastor of the St. Paul's Lutheran church of Tomah, one of the finest churches of this denomination in Monroe county, was born at Platteville, Wis., November 24, 1865, the son of John and Barbara (Gilbert) Glaeser, both natives of Germany. The father emigrated to the United States in 1852 and first located at Pottsville, Pa., where he lived two years, working the while in the coal mines at that place, removing thence to Platteville, Wis., where he acquired sixty acres of land which he tilled and where the family lived for fifty years. In 1907 he retired from active labor, and with the mother now lives in Platteville, he at the age of seventy-five and she at the age of sixty-seven years.

Rev. Glaeser's early education was received in the parochial schools; at the age of fifteen, he entered the Northwestern University at Watertown, Wis., a Lutheran institution, where

he acquired a four year classical course, which was supplemented by a course of two and one-half years at the Lutheran seminary at Milwaukee. He was ordained and became pastor of the Lutheran church at Paris, Kenosha county, Wis., December 26, 1887; in 1889 he accepted a call from the church at Town of Berlin, Marathon county, Wis., and remained in charge of that church for ten and one-half years. January 11, 1900, he accepted the pastorate of the Lutheran church at Tomah, and has since been its popular and efficient pastor. This church is a beautiful edifice with a seating capacity of six hundred and fifty. Under the present pastorate, the church, parochial school and Young People's Society are all in a most flourishing condition.

Rev. Glaeser is a member of the Board of Home Missions of the Lutheran Wisconsin Synod; a member of the Board of the Northwestern College of Watertown, Wis., and Visitator of the Southwest Conference. On June 27, 1889, he was united in marriage with Miss Frances Schultz, of Milwaukee. They have an interesting family of five children, viz: Frances is a teacher in the schools at Racine, Wis.; Martin is attending the college at Watertown; Beata is employed by Burrows & Son in Tomah; Gilbert and Angelica are at home and are in attendance at school.

William C. Gould, prominent among the farmers of Greenfield township, resides in section twenty-four, where he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. His birth occurred near Watertown, Jefferson county, N. Y., May 12, 1861, the son of Charles and Frances (McQuillian) Gould, who were also natives of New York state, and who came to Wisconsin in 1867 with their family, and took up and homesteaded 80 acres of wild land in section two, Greenfield township, which was afterwards sold to Nehemiah Oakley, and the family moved to another farm in the southern part of the township where they resided for eighteen years, when the father moved to the village of Norwalk, and for nine years conducted the Norwalk hotel. He died there in 1899 at the age of sixty-five years; his widow, mother of our subject, passed away in September, 1911, at the age of seventy-two years. Daniel Gould, a brother of Charles, came to Monroe county, and for a time kept a hotel at Tunnel City. A sister, Lucinda, and aunt of our subject, is the wife of Orland Woodard, of Dodgeville, Wis.

William C. Gould is the eldest of a family of eight children, all of whom are living except Charles who is deceased; the

others are Ella, who married Ira Seibold, of Tunnel City; Adelbert, of Norwalk; Mattie is the wife of Theodore Lotterman, of Crandon, Wis.; Francis is the wife of Vent Wallace, and lives in Ontario, Wis.; Hurbert and Horace reside in Sparta, and Celia is the wife of Adolph Holderman, of Norwalk.

Mr. Gould received his education in the public schools and remained on the farm until he was sixteen, when he began for himself and was variously employed until he reached the age of twenty-eight years, when he rented a farm in Greenfield township and successfully conducted the same for some thirteen years. In 1904 he purchased his present farm of eighty acres, which is fitted out with all modern farming equipments and presents an up-to-date appearance. He has remodeled his residence and built a large and commodious barn in 1909 and has since added other improvements. Mr. Gould takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county; for the past five years he has been a member of the side board; has been clerk of the school district two years, and in social circles he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers. On May 25, 1891, he was married to Miss Mary McMullen, daughter of Joseph McMullen, of New York State, who about fifty years ago came to Tunnel City, but later moved to Dodgeville, Wis.

Edward C. Graham, is a native son of Wisconsin, and ranks among the wide awake and progressive farmers of LaGrange township. He was born in Tomah township, April 11, 1868, to Michael and Sarah (Nash) Graham, natives of New York state and Ireland, respectively. Michael Graham, who settled in LaGrange township in the early fifties, and his brother, in company with their father, Thomas Graham, came to Wisconsin, where Michael died at the age of forty-three years, in 1879. His widow, mother of our subject, still (1912) survives. They reared a family of four children: Ella married M. P. Finnerty, and resides at Tomah; Edward C., our subject; William, who lives on the homestead, and May, the wife of Fitz Chapman, of Chicago.

Receiving his education in the district schools of his home town, Mr. Graham assisted his father on the farm, which, since his death, our subject has conducted. He lives now in the enjoyment of his model country home; with his modern residence, erected in 1909, and his commodious barn, built in 1899, with other improvements in keeping with these, have been made. He carries on general farming, dairying and stock raising, making a specialty of Durham and Holstein cattle. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his township, has served as treasurer of

his town, and was treasurer of the school district for twenty years.

He was married in October, 1894, to Miss Elizabeth Brennen, daughter of Edward and Mary (Gillespie) Brennen, of Adrian township. To Mr. and Mrs. Graham have been born four children, viz.: Marie Grace, Irene Katheryn, Mildred Ellen and Michael Francis. Mrs. Graham was a resident of Adrian township for many years, where her father, Edward Brennen, died in November, 1909, and where her mother now resides.

Albert Grill*, the wealthy and prominent young farmer who occupies and owns the family homestead of 200 acres in sections ten, eleven and fifteen in Ridgeville township, where he was born on December 16, 1868, is the son of August and Wilhelmina (Summerfield) Grill, both natives of Germany, who came to America in 1858 and first located in New York state. Later they moved to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled in the town of Ridgeville, where they purchased eighty acres of land in section ten, and another eighty acres in section eleven, where they made their home for about twenty years, and on November 22, 1911, they moved to Norwalk and retired from active farm life. Mr. Grill has always been a hard working man, began life in the midst of "hard times," worked for small wages and endured the hardships of pioneer days, and in all respects has lived a truly strenuous life. In later years, however, he achieved a fair measure of success as a farmer and is highly respected for his honesty and integrity. He and Mrs. Grill now live in comparative ease and are really enjoying the fruits of their early efforts.

Their son, Albert, attended the district schools while he was small, being only eleven years of age when he was forced to abandon his chances for an education on account of his home duties, as he was the mainstay of his parents, and as the result of his economy and perseverance and of his steady and gentlemanly habits, he came into possession of the homestead in his own right and since then he has made many valuable and lasting improvements on the farm in way of bringing the land up and rebuilding the residence, barns, etc., until now he has one of the ideal country homes of the township. His water supply comes from a drive well, 160 feet in depth, with windmill power; he is thoroughly up-to-date in his farming methods and is considered a successful general farmer. He is a Democrat in politics and has held several local offices; was assessor for two years and a member of the school board for about thirty years.

Mr. Grill has been married twice. His first marriage was with

Miss Bertha Peth, and they had a family of seven children, only three of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Louis W., born February 15, 1892; George, born November 20, 1897, and Elma, born January 10, 18—. Mrs. Grill died in 1903.

The second Mrs. Grill was Miss Mary Kortbein, daughter of W. F. and A. Kortbein, to whom he was married in 1904. They were the parents of four children, all of whom are living.

Mr. and Mrs. Grill have one daughter, Veluria, born June 14, 1905.

Fred Gross, of the well known firm of Gross & Schaller, druggists, is a native son of Wisconsin. He was born in Armena township, Wood county, on February 18, 1864, to A. L. and Louisa (Polansky) Gross, who emigrated from Germany to Wood county, Wisconsin, in the early fifties, before their marriage. A. L. Gross, father of our subject, who was a baker by trade, and his brother, Jacob Gross, were the only members of a large family who braved the trials and hardships of an ocean voyage in those early days to become pioneers of Wisconsin. They were both progressive and thrifty and were numbered among the most substantial citizens of Wood county. The father died in 1907 at the age of sixty-nine years. Mrs. Gross, mother of Fred and daughter of Herman Polansky, a well-to-do farmer of Wood county, is still (1912) living at the age of seventy-seven.

Mr. Fred Gross was educated in the public schools of his county and early entered as clerk the employ of Garrison & Whittlesey, druggists and general merchandise, of Grand Rapids, Wis., and at the age of nineteen he had full charge of the drug department. Following this employment, Mr. Gross went to Dakota and Montana, but soon again returned to Wisconsin, and on October 1, 1884, located at Sparta, and at first was located in the store of William Potter Palmer for a period of four years, when he became a partner of Mr. Palmer and the firm was Palmer & Gross, also continuing until April, 1895, when Mr. Paul Schaller purchased the interest of Mr. Palmer and the firm became Gross & Schaller. The building occupied by them was bought in April, 1896, at which time the store was enlarged and many improvements made, and now ranks as one of the model stores in Wisconsin and the business a thriving success.

In public affairs Mr. Gross is no less active and influential than as a business man, in advancing the interests of Sparta. Believing it to be the duty of every citizen to contribute to the extent of his ability to the good government of the community in which he lives, and also that good municipal government is a matter of

the greatest importance in any city, he took from his business the time necessary to serve as mayor of his city two years, supervisor of his ward for several terms and is now president of the board of trustees of the Monroe County Insane Asylum, is ex-officio superintendent of the poor and a director in the Bank of Sparta. He is now a director of the Monroe County Telephone Company and was its first secretary. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic order, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the LaCrosse Club.

On June 24, 1903, he was married to Miss Wanetta Baldwin, daughter of R. S. Baldwin, of Sparta.

John L. Guthrie, who resides on his farm in section three, Oakdale township, is the son of William and Susan (Wright) Guthrie and was born in Genesee Valey, N. Y., September 2, 1837. His parents were born in New York state, the father on July 18, 1803, and died on October 15, 1853. Susan Wright, mother of Mr. Guthrie, was born in Hebron, N. Y., February 7, 1808, and was married to William Guthrie at Salem, N. Y., July 11, 1831. She was the mother of four children, two sons and two daughters, of whom but one, our subject, survives. She lived to a ripe old age and died June 8, 1896. At the age of twenty-three, in 1860, John L. came West from New York and located at Fox Lake, Wis. During the same year he came to Oakdale township, Monroe county, and for a time engaged in getting out railroad ties and wood. He later purchased from the railroad company 160 acres of land in section three, where he now resides. He was married at Tomah, April 27, 1863, to Miss Caroline Leffingwell, daughter of Hiram and Julia Leffingwell, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Guthrie was born in Steuben county, New York, and is the fifth child in order of birth in a family of seven children. To Mr. and Mrs. Guthrie have been born six children: Julia S., now the wife of Frank Snider, of Oakdale; William L., married Florence Logan, of Oakdale, now deceased, and has three children; Emma, at home; Cora is the wife of Elmer Hill, of Tomah, and has five children; Bertha is now Mrs. W. Wallace, of Oakdale, and Arthur J., who resides at home. When Mr. Guthrie first located on his present farm it was a dismal looking swamp, which, by hard work and persistent effort, he has reclaimed and converted into one of the best farms in Oakdale township. He has built a fine residence and large and commodious sanitary barn and other outbuildings and keeps his place well stocked with a good grade of horses, pure bred Jersey cattle and hogs, and besides his general farming, he makes a specialty of

dairying. Although on the shady side of life, Mr. Guthrie takes great pride in keeping his farm in a first-class and up-to-date condition. One of the very first settlers in Oakdale township, Mr. Guthrie passed through all the ups and downs of pioneer life, and is now reaping the fruits of his privations and the many years of toil.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Guthrie has always taken an active interest in the councils of his party, and has been called upon to fill many offices of trust. He was chairman of the town board and a member of the side board for thirteen years, clerk of his school district for twenty-nine years and was one of the organizers of the Oakdale Co-operative Butter Association. His son, Arthur, has filled the office of treasurer. Since its organization, August, 1862, Mr. Guthrie enlisted in Company G, Berdons First United States Sharp Shooters, from Dodge county, Wisconsin; he was engaged in the second battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam and Blackman's Ford. He was discharged on account of disability in February, 1863. He is a member of the Kilpatrick Post No. 29, G. A. R., of Camp Douglas.

William N. Guy, whose birth occurred in Canada, May 27, 1853, is one of a family of twelve children, three of whom are now living, born of the marriage of Thomas and Anna (Spear) Guy, natives of England and Canada, respectively; the Guys being of French extraction. Besides William N., the others living are Orlean James, of Kansas City, Mo., and Norman Wesley Guy, of Sparta. The parents of Mr. Guy married in Canada February 27, 1843, and came to Illinois in an early day; thence to Monroe county, Wisconsin, when William was but a mere boy. They first located and spent some time in the then village of Sparta, and subsequently removed to a farm in Sparta township and engaged in farming. Thomas Guy, the father, who was one of the pioneers of Monroe county, and a substantial and representative citizen, was born in 1822, and died in May, 1873, aged fifty-one years. Anna Spear Guy, mother of our subject, was born May 5, 1825, and died in June, 1892, aged sixty-seven years.

William N. Guy attended the district schools of his neighborhood, was reared on the home farm, where he remained for twenty-one years, when he located in section five, Sparta township. He was married January 1, 1876, to Miss Isabella Nicol. She is the daughter of Alexander and Anna (Denwoody) Nicol, who came to Sparta township, Monroe county, among the first pioneers. He was the son of Robert and Mary (Pringle) Nicol, and was born in Roxbury county, Scotland, in 1827. His parents

were also natives of Scotland, where they spent their entire lives, and raised a family of two sons and three daughters; the father was by trade a shoemaker, and in religious faith was a Presbyterian. Alexander Nicol left the land of his nativity in 1852, and upon his arrival in this country settled first in Westchester county, New York, but afterwards came west to Wisconsin and located in Rock county, and worked at his trade of carpenter and joiner. In 1857 he came to Monroe county, and purchased eighty acres of land, and ever after made this county his home. Mr. Nicol was married in Scotland to Miss Ann Denwoody, a daughter of John and Ann (Stevenson) Denwoody. There were four sons and two daughters born to this marriage, namely, Alexander, Robert, John, who lives in Sparta; James resides in California; Isabella, now the wife of William N. Guy, and one daughter who died in infancy named Jennette May. Mr. Nicol was one of the most substantial and highly respected citizens of Sparta township, and after a residence of fifty-three years in Monroe county, died in 1910 at the age of eighty-three years. It was he who erected the original building that stood on the lot now occupied by the Dodge & Davis store. The mother of Mrs. Guy was born February 14, 1827, and died March 9, 1910, aged eighty-three years.

Mrs. Guy was born at Janesville, Rock county, Wis., and when three years of age moved with her parents to Monroe county. At that time there were but three or four families in the township, which was then a dense wilderness, inhabited by wild beasts and Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Guy are the parents of five children: Anna L. is the wife of John Herring, Agnes is the wife of Carl Pierce, and Charles N. and Harry W., all of whom live in Sparta township, and Russell lives at home. Mr. Guy is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sparta. the Modern Woodmen of America, the Maccabees, Beavers and the Order of Good Templars.

Charles N. Guy was born in the town of Sparta, March 4, 1881. He attended the district schools and remained on the home farm until he reached the age of twenty-two years, when he removed to the Teasdale farm, where he remained for two years. He next went to the Putnam farm, which he conducted for five years, and in the spring of 1912 purchased his present farm of 120 acres from Joseph Heasty.

On April 21, 1903, Mr. Guy was married to Miss Elizabeth McGarvey, daughter of James and Mary (Ryan) McGarvey, of Wilton, Wis. To this union have been born four children. James William, born July 26, 1904; Isabella, born April 10, 1906; Thomas, born October 25, 1908, and Nelson Arthur, born June 19, 1911.

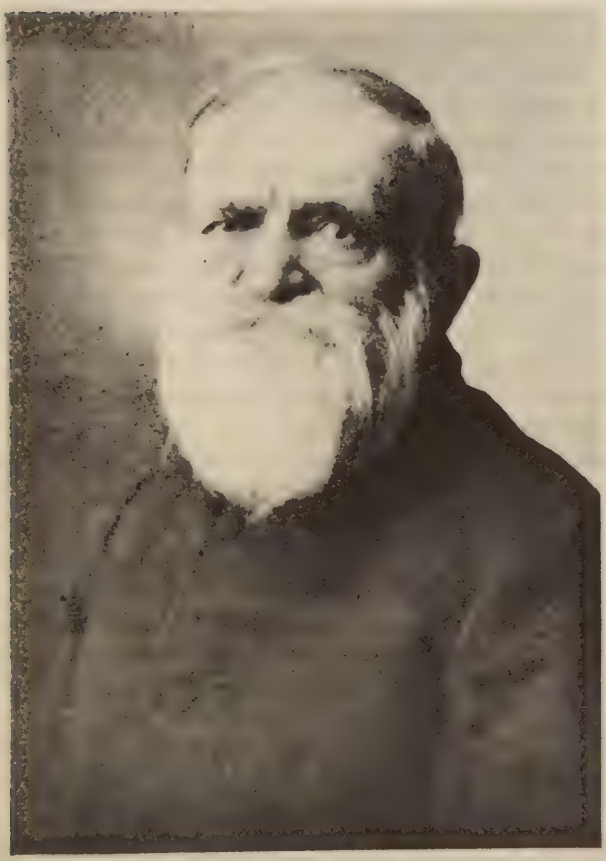
Harry W. Guy was born in Sparta township, February 20, 1890. He received his education in the common schools and remained on the home farm until 1911, when he removed to the Lawson farm, which he now carries on in conjunction with the work on the home place. He was married October 4, 1911, to Miss Lila Burg, of Sparta. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Maccabees and the Methodist Episcopal church.

Walter Roy Guy* belongs to the younger class of successful farmers of Sparta township, and was born in Monroe county April 26, 1886, and is the son of Wesley and Ella (Aylesworth) Guy, natives of Wisconsin. Walter was reared on his father's farm, and his experience was the same as that of most farmer boys. He attended the district school of his home town, and assisted with the farm work until 1906, when he went to La Crosse and became manager of the Rapid Milling Company, remaining in that position for three years, when he came to Sparta and purchased what is known as the Sam Biddeson farm, containing 120 acres in section twenty-seven, Sparta township, where he now resides engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is thoroughly up to date in his farming methods, and keeps his farm well supplied with modern labor saving devices. Since purchasing his present farm he has enlarged his residence, built two new silos and made many other improvements, including a flowing well which furnishes an abundance of pure running water for house and stock.

Mr. Guy was married September 4, 1909, to Miss Sophia, daughter of Frank and Amelia Riser, of La Crosse county. Mr. Guy takes an interest in the affairs of the county, and in social matters is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

William Henry Hanchett is a native son of Monroe county and has always lived on the farm where he now resides. He was born in 1867 and is one of a family of seven children born to George E. and Elizabeth (Oakley) Hanchett. Of the others, Azaline is deceased, Helen married Christian Dahl and lives at Bismark, N. D.; John O.; Ruth M., now Mrs. Edward Schmidt, of Crandon, Wis.; George E., of Pierce county, North Dakota, and Herman E., of Madeline Island, in Lake Superior.

George E. Hanchett has been a resident of Monroe county since 1856. He was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, January 22, 1828, a son of Isaac and Chloe (Brown) Hanchett, who were also natives of Connecticut. The first Hanchett came to this country on the coaling ship "Marion John" from



GEORGE E. HANCHETT

Plymouth, England, to Massachusetts in 1630 and was of English ancestry. Thomas Hanchett was a Puritan of Norman French descent, and was probably the ancestor of all the Hanchetts in this country. The father of George E. died in 1840, leaving a widow, four sons and four daughters; the mother lived to be seventy years of age; her death occurred in Dodge county, Wisconsin. One of the sons was a soldier in the late Civil War, member of a Wisconsin regiment. At the age of sixteen years, George learned the blacksmith trade, and in 1854 he joined the train of western emigrants coming to Wisconsin, and two years later settled on a farm in Monroe county which has since been his home. He erected comfortable dwellings and other necessary buildings and his specialty has been fruits and berry culture, and of this industry he and his son, William Henry, have made a marked success. The father began the fruit culture in 1886 and has had as high as sixty acres devoted to this line at one time, and holds the reputation of being one of the most successful fruit growers of the state. They have made a study of the soil and climate and the varieties best adapted to these, and hence their success. Mr. George Hanchett was married on November 6, 1862 to Miss Elizabeth Oakley, daughter of John and Eliza Oakley, prominent settlers of the county. Mrs. Hanchett was born in Columbia county, New York, and died in Monroe county April 6, 1902. She was the mother of seven children. Mr. George Hanchett has represented the people of his township as clerk, assessor, treasurer and chairman of the board, and supports the principles of the Republican party, taking active interest in all their movements. He is loyal to home enterprises, honorable and upright in all his dealings, and worthy of the confidence bestowed upon him by his fellow citizens.

William H. acquired his early education in the district schools of his neighborhood and grew to manhood on his father's farm, which originally contained forty acres and to which has subsequently been added 220 acres, making a total of 260 acres known as one of the most productive fruit farms in Wisconsin. The father began the raising of small fruits in 1886, and since reaching his majority, our subject has worked the farm in connection with his father, making fruit raising a specialty. The farm is highly cultivated and improved with a fine array of buildings, and besides general farming, they carry on a fine dairy business, the farm being at all times stocked with the best horses and Guernsey cattle. Mr. Hanchett, Jr., is a man of high

standing in the community, and his upright demeanor and character command the confidence and respect of all who know him. He was one of the organizers of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association, and for several years has been its president, succeeding Mr. L. S. Fisher. He has been township clerk, chairman of the town board and is a member of the state board of public affairs, and in 1912 declined the nomination to the general assembly. He is a member of the class of 1898, state agricultural college, also of the Modern Woodmen Association, the Beavers, and the Angelo Union church.

On September 16, 1909, Mr. Hanchett was married to Miss Bessie L. Anderson, daughter of Nels and Christina (Williams) Anderson, who came from Norway in 1856 and located at Deerfield, in Dane county.

Michael M. Haney, county superintendent of schools of Monroe county, Wisconsin, is an earnest and enthusiastic educational worker who has established for himself a reputation that has popularized him with the patrons of the schools over which he has jurisdiction.

Mr. Haney was born August 15, 1867, at Winona, Minn., son of John and Julia (McDonald) Haney, natives of County Galway, Ireland.

Late in the 50's they came to the United States and settled at Winona, Minn., where the father was employed in railroading.

In 1870 they moved to the town of Sheldon, Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled on a farm. Here they lived and died, he in the fall of 1903 at the advanced age of eighty years, and she in 1905 at the age of seventy-two years.

They raised a family of seven children, five boys and two girls, six of whom are now living.

Mr. Haney's parents were poor and were unable to give him the educational advantages that he desired. He, however, made the most of those offered him. After finishing the common school he walked four miles to attend the village school and began to teach on a third grade certificate. He continued to teach and go to school during vacation until he secured a state certificate. He assumed charge of his first school in the township of Sheldon, in the district where he first attended school. This was followed by teaching in the district schools at Oil City, Lyon's Valley and Leon, and later in the villages of Glendale, Kendall and Norwalk in Monroe county, Ontario in Vernon county, where he once attended school, and Boaz in Richland county.

His long and varied experience in teaching fitted him for the office of superintendent, to which he was elected in the spring of 1905. By the choice of the people he has since been returned to the same office three successive terms. Some of the stronger features of the work during his terms of office have been closer supervision, the introduction of the graded system, and freearm movement in penmanship and emphasis on the "Three R's."

Mr. Haney was united in marriage August 15, 1895, to Miss Lenora Moore, daughter of A. D. and Janette (Jones) Moore, of Glendale, Wis.

They have three children, Gladys J., Merwyn A., and Winona J. Haney.

Sever Hansen*, a prosperous and loyal citizen of section twelve, Sparta township, Monroe county, was born in Koljing, Denmark, February 12, 1849, the only son born to Hans and Jacobine Hansen, who lived and died in Denmark. The father was a soldier in the Danish army and was killed in battle during the war with Germany at the age of twenty-six years. After the death of his mother, which occurred three years later when she was only twenty-five years old, Sever went to live with his uncle, John Hansen, where he remained until he reached the age of fourteen years. He then began to make his own way in the world by working on a farm for two years, after which he went to sea and was a sailor for about two years; farming, however, was the occupation which appealed most favorably to him, and he returned to Denmark and followed that line for some nine years. In 1876 he emigrated to America and arrived in Sparta, Wis., on April 1, of that year; he hired out to Benjamin Morse, with whom he remained two years, and in 1879 was employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company at construction work on the Viroqua branch of that road. After the completion of this he was employed at the same work in Iowa, Missouri and Canada, and later returned to Sparta and again took a position with the Milwaukee road and while thus employed, in 1882, he purchased his present farm, containing at that time sixty acres, to which he later added another forty acres and took up his residence there for two years. He again returned to the employ of the road for a short time, before taking up his permanent residence on the farm in 1886, and since then he has made many improvements in erecting buildings and clearing the timber land. He now has a good residence, barn, granery, machine shed, etc., and has brought the land to a high state of cultivation, making it

one of the model farm homes in that section of the county, and Mr. Hansen is considered one of the most successful general farmers and stock raisers.

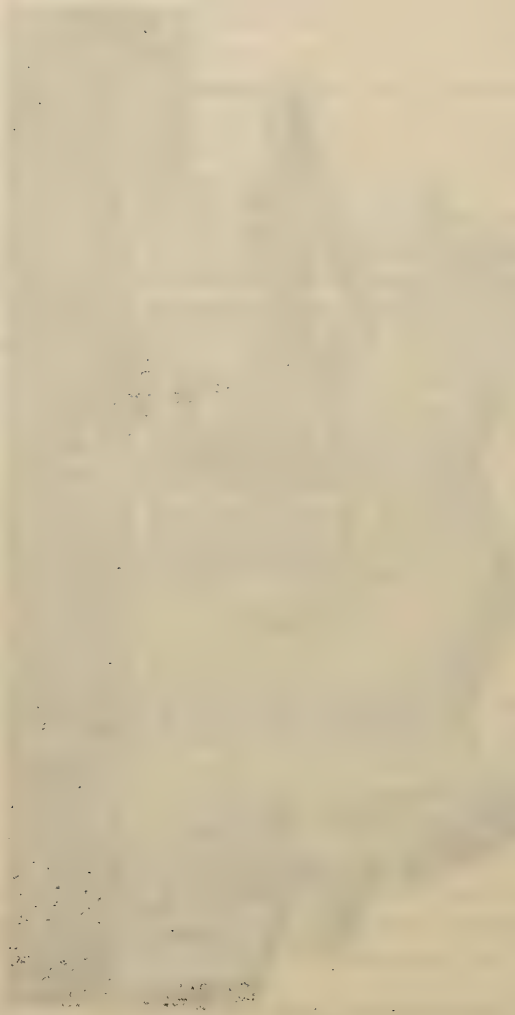
On January 8, 1883, Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Helen Hansen, a native of Norway. They have six children, viz: Henry T. lives in Sparta township, Carl F. is a graduate of the Agricultural Department of the State University of Wisconsin, and now in the employ of the experimental department of that institution; Emma A., Norman J., Fred A., and Viola M., all reside at home. Mr. Hansen is known as an energetic and enterprising citizen, and in religious association he and his family are members of the Sparta Norwegian Lutheran church.

Calvin L. Hanshaw, one of the progressive farmers of Portland township, was born near Monmouth, Warren county, Ill., and is the youngest and only living son of a family of four children born to James and Susannah (Osborne) Hanshaw. The others are Elizabeth, now Mrs. William Whistler, of Iowa; Maggie and William, both of whom are deceased. The parents of Mr. Hanshaw, who were natives of Indiana, moved to Ohio after their marriage, and thence to Illinois, where our subject was born, and there the father died in 1867. His widow, mother of our subject, survived until 1904, when she passed away at the age of eighty-two years.

Calvin was reared on the home farm in Illinois, where he continued to reside until 1872, when he came to Wisconsin and located on his present farm of 155 acres in section seventeen, Portland township. Here Mr. Hanshaw lived for many years in a log house of the early day pattern which was replaced in 1900 with a beautiful and commodious frame residence, and with his modern barn and other outbuildings and the high state of cultivation to which he has brought his land, he has one of the best farm homes in the county. He carries on general farming and stock raising and with his thorough methods of operating, he has made a grand success. He is recognized as one of Portland's best citizens, ever ready to aid in any enterprise for the benefit of his town and county.

On February 6, 1901, Mr. Hanshaw was married to Miss Matie Jones, daughter of John N. and Laura Ann (Wheldon) Jones, of La Crosse county. There were nine children in the family; besides Mrs. Hanshaw: Herbert, of Newton Center, Wis.; William, of Bangor; Delia, deceased; Newton lives at Sioux Falls, S. D.; Jesse, of Bangor, Wis.; Nellie, of Winnipeg, Canada; Jennie, of Sparta, and one who died in infancy.

CALVIN HANSHAW'S RESIDENCE



To Mr. and Mrs. Hanshaw have been born two children, viz: Elvira May, born June 9, 1902, and Orville Calvin, born March 3, 1905.

Orlando H. Hastings, veteran of the Civil War, was born at Charlestown, Orleans county, Vermont, March 7, 1840, and is the only surviving member of a family of nine children born to Osmyn and Dolly (Buck) Hastings, natives of Caledonia county, Vermont. The other children were Dolly Ann, Osmyn, Delight, Climena, married Bernard Whitney; Ozro B., Orsino, twin brother of our subject; Josephine A., and Angelette J. When our subject was ten years of age, his parents moved to Wisconsin and located in Dodge county. In 1852 they moved to Juneau county and in 1859 to Monroe county where they settled on a farm of 150 acres of wild land in LaGrange township, which the father sold in 1867 to Levi Woodard, and thence moved to Minnesota, where they spent one year. Exchanging farms with their son-in-law, Bernard K. Whitney, they returned to LaGrange township and lived on the farm of seventy acres, where our subject now resides. They later returned to Minnesota, where the father died in 1878 at the age of seventy-five years and the same year his wife, mother of our subject, passed away at the age of sixty-nine years. He was prominent in his township, and was always an active man of affairs and was called to the various local offices of trust.

Orlando H. received his education in the district schools and remained on the home farm until he reached his majority, when he secured employment at farm work in Dane county, Wisconsin. At the age of twenty-two, on August 14, 1862, he enlisted in company F, twenty-fifth Wisconsin infantry, and was mustered into the service at La Crosse. After a few months spent in Minnesota and at Madison, his regiment went to Columbus, Ky., and the following May to Vicksburg. On account of illness Mr. Hastings went to the hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, and was given a furlough of three months, at the end of which time he returned to his regiment at Helena, Ark.; thence the regiment proceeded to Cairo, Ill., and was with Sherman in the Atlantic campaign. Again becoming ill, he was sent to several field hospitals and afterwards to the hospital at Rome, Ga., where, on account of disability, he was discharged on October 2, 1864. He then returned to his home in LaGrange township, where he soon after married and for three years conducted a farm in Glendale township, then returned to the town of LaGrange and spent three years. He then went again to Glendale and in

1875 came back to LaGrange township, where he has since made his home, actively engaged in general farming.

He was married March 7, 1866, to Miss Clarissa J. West, daughter of the late Hiram West. She died in 1882 in her thirty-fifth year. They had six children born to them, viz: George W., deceased; Lettie J. is the wife of Albert Doolittle, of Vilas county, Wisconsin; Lydia I., wife of Fred H. Bundy, of Sand Point, Idaho; Mary Josephine, deceased; Ella C., married William Kampman, of Minneapolis, and Orlando Jay is deceased. Mr. Hastings married for his second wife, Miss Christina Semersen, daughter of Christian Semersen, a native of Denmark. She died December 9, 1910, aged sixty-four years. Mr. Hastings has been active in the affairs of his town and has been director and treasurer of the school district. He is a member of the Henry W. Cressy Post, G. A. R., of Tomah.

Lyle H. Heath* belongs to the younger class of prosperous farmers of Monroe county. He was born in Arcadia, Trempealeau county, Wis., and is the son of Edwin S. and Anna (Busby) Heath, of La Crosse and Trempealeau counties. The father removed from Trempeleau to La Crosse county, and in 1911 came to Monroe county. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Heath were Oscar B. and Ann (Miller) Heath, long-time residents of Marengo, Wis., and who later removed to La Crosse county, where he died in 1902. His wife, grandmother of our subject, survived nine years and passed away April 2, 1911. Lyle H. attended the public schools and was reared on a farm in La Crosse county, where he lived until the fall of 1911, when he removed to Monroe county and purchased the Dedrick Langrehr farm of 160 acres in section five, Sparta township. He is engaged in general farming and takes pride in raising Holstein cattle. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Yeomens. While only a recent settler in Sparta township, Mr. Heath is interested in the affairs of his town and county, and is one of its most loyal citizens. He has one brother, William O., who resides in Los Angeles, Cal.

Mr. Heath was married on September 1, 1910, to Miss Martha LaFleur, daughter of Henry LaFleur, of New Amsterdam, Wis. They have two children, Mabelle A. and Willard L.

M. O. Heffernan, cashier of the Farmers' State Bank, Norwalk, is the son of Morris and Elizabeth (Sims) Heffernan, natives of Canada and England respectively. His father in early life left his native country and came to the States, and for some time after his arrival, followed the occupation of a

sailor on Lake Erie. His next move was westward, this time coming to Wisconsin, where he arrived in the early fifties, locating in Hazel Green township, Grant county, where he engaged in farming and continued to reside, and at the time of his death in 1904, owned one of the best farms in the county. His widow, mother of our subject, still survives. Mr. Heffernan, grandfather of M. O., was also a native of Canada, where he spent his life in the occupation of farming. The ancestors on the Heffernan side were of Irish descent, while the Sims family were of English extraction (Cornish). William Sims, the maternal grandfather, was for many years a resident of Hazel Green township, Grant county, where he died in 1890 at the age of ninety years.

M. O. Heffernan was the ninth child of a family of thirteen children, twelve of whom are living; the others besides our subject are John, of Wilton; William, deceased; Albert lives at Ireton, Iowa; Thomas, of Dubuque, Iowa; Abbie, wife of E. J. Osborn, Carroll, Iowa; James E. lives at Birmingham, Ala.; Mary is the wife of Grant Wills and resides at Cuba City, Wis., as does Oscar; Walter lives in Beloit; Jesse E. at Black Earth, Wis.; Clyde and Elmer reside at Platteville, Wis. Mr. Heffernan, our subject, received his education in the public schools of Grant county and at the Platteville Normal school, graduating from the latter institution with the class of 1901; he began teaching the same year at Hollandale, Wis., and in 1902 became principal of the Norwalk high school, continuing as such until 1909. In 1905 he was a candidate for county superintendent of schools in opposition to M. M. Haney, but was defeated after a hotly contested campaign. Closing his term as principal of the high school in 1909 he went to Hayti, S. D., where for two years he was engaged in the furniture business. Returning to Norwalk in May, 1911, he became cashier of the Farmer's State Bank, which position he still retains. This financial institution was organized September 17, 1907, with a capital of $10,000. The total footings of this bank often reached the snug sum of $100,000, and is considered one of the soundest institutions in the county.

On August 16, 1907, Mr. Heffernan was married to Miss Mabel McGary, daughter of Eugene and Lydia McGary, one of the prominent and highly esteemed families of Norwalk, and whose biography appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Heffernan are the parents of two children, viz: Olive Lydia, and Eugene, who is deceased. Mrs. Heffernan was graduated from

the Sparta high school with the class of 1898 and for several terms was a teacher in the schools of Norwalk.

Adam J. Heintz. Among the many successful and public spirited farmers of Portland township, Monroe county, is Adam J. Heintz. He is the son of Peter and Barbara Heintz, natives of Germany, where Adam was born February 20, 1847, the eldest of a family of seven children. Of the others, Katherine is the wife of William Jenson and lives at Cashton; Caroline, widow of August Miller, Portland township; Adeline, wife of John Schmitz, of Portland township; Mary, deceased, was the wife of Peter Weber. When our subject reached the age of one year, his parents emigrated to America, arriving here in 1848. They came to Wisconsin and first settled in Jefferson county, and in 1863 moved to Monroe county, where the father purchased eighty acres of land in Portland township, to which he later added three 40's, and here established the family home where they passed the remainder of their lives. The mother died in 1882 at the age of seventy-six years; the father survived until August 2, 1892, when he passed away at the age of seventy-two years.

Our subject was reared on the farm and attended the district schools, assisting in the farm work until twenty-three years of age, when he purchased 120 acres of wild land in section twenty-three, Portland township, and was one of the first settlers in that section. Starting in life with no capital but his native ability, he endured the many hardships of the pioneer, and by the good graces of W. H. Blyton and Martin Erickson, of Sparta, who extended him a line of credit for supplies, he was enabled to clear his land and place the same under cultivation. The first successful crop raised was wheat. His farm is under a high state of cultivation and well improved with a good residence, barns and tobacco sheds and other buildings. He has spent his whole life in farming and has been generally successful.

In August, 1872, Mr. Heintz was married to Miss Victoria Mashak, daughter of Bartlemas Mashak. Mrs. Heintz died two years later in 1874, leaving one daughter, Anna, who is now the wife of Matt Marx, of Brush Creek. His second marriage was with Mary Schmitz, daughter of John Schmitz, of Portland township. Of this union six children have been born, viz: John lives at home; Peter lives at Cashton; Lena is the wife of August Meisner, of Portland township; Maggie is the wife of Frank Masenberg, of Jefferson township; Christ and Agnes Heintz are at home. In the early days of the township Mr. Heintz was a member of the side board and for thirty years has been treasurer

of the school district. He and his family affiliate with the Pine Hollow Catholic church.

Herman Heintz*, a prominent farmer of Oakdale township, was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, March 3, 1866, the son of John C. and Caroline (Hubert) Heintz, both natives of Germany. The parents came to America in 1852, and located in Waukesha county, this state, where they lived for five years. In 1857 they moved to Monroe county, where the father purchased 120 acres of land in section thirty in the town of Oakdale, to which he later added sixty acres, all of which was wild land covered with timber. He erected a log house of one room, in which the family lived for twenty years, and with his own hand cleared eighty acres, and placed the same under a good state of cultivation. The trip from Waukesha to Monroe county was made in a second class wagon which contained all their earthly possessions, and which was drawn by an ox team. Some relics from this old wagon are now in possession of our subject. They were honest, hard working people, devoted to their home and family and were members of the Lutheran church. Their family consisted of eight children, five of whom are now living. As a man he took great interest in all public matters, and for twenty years was school clerk of his town, and secretary of his church. The mother was also born in Germany, and died in 1906.

Herman was educated in the district schools and at the age of twenty years purchased 180 acres of land in sections ten, twenty and thirty, Oakdale township, being the old homestead. Many of the improvements made by his father were on the place, the residence, which has been rebuilt by Mr. Heintz, was erected thirty-six years ago, and the barn was built thirty-eight years ago. A modern, up-to-date barn, 30 by 104, has recently been built, and a large compressed air tank furnishes water through a system of pipes for both house and barn. Mr. Heintz has an ambition to run his farm in the latest up-to-date manner, and in his operations uses all the modern devices. He was the first man in Monroe county to use a manure spreading machine, which was ordered direct from the factory, and he is the first man in the town of Oakdale to engage in alfalfa raising. He makes a success of this adventure, and during this year of 1912 has cut three crops from five acres. He is an extensive dealer in and breeder of Holstein cattle, and now has a fine herd of 250 head. In addition to his general farming operations, he carries on an extensive dairy business, and is also an extensive raiser of full-

blooded white leghorn chickens. In every sense Mr. Heintz is a model and influential citizen, and one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of the county.

John Heintz, who is one of the successful citizens of Jefferson township, Monroe county, Wiseonsin, was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, July 17, 1854, the son of Michael and Catherine (Boltz) Heintz. The parents were natives of Rhein Pfaltz, a province of Bavaria. The father came to America in 1849 and first located at Grand Haven, Mich., where he was employed in the pineries for four years. In the fall of 1852 he returned to his native country, got his wife and came back to America in the spring of 1853 and settled on forty acres of land in the town of Sullivan, Jefferson county, and there passed his life. He was born in March, 1824, and died November 6, 1870. His wife, mother of our subject, was born in 1836, and died March 3, 1898. The father had a liberal education, secured in his native country, and after settling in this country, experienced all the ups and downs of pioneer life. He was honorable and upright, and a man of genial disposition, and with his wife was a member of the Catholic church. At the time of Michael Heintz's death, Mrs. Heintz, mother of our subject, acquired 140 acres of land in Jefferson county, and in 1863 Michael Heintz purchased 160 acres of land, part of which was in Monroe and a part in Vernon county.

John attended the common schools until he was seventeen years old, and lived with his mother until 1884, when the family became separated, and he began to look out for himself. Has improved a farm and at present has one of the best, if not the best, orchards in the town. In 1911 had a fruit yield of 300 bushels of apples. On May 6, 1884, he was married at Ottawa, Waukesha county, to Miss Barbara Bischel, daughter of Henry and Barbara (Ruf) Bischel. To this union has been born nine children, viz.: Gertrude B., born September 22, 1885, graduated from the Cashton high school in 1905, and for five years she taught school in Monroe and Chippewa counties, Wisconsin, which she gave up to accept a position with Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago. At present (1912) Gertrude is employed in one of the departments of the Boston store, Chicago; Clara J., born October 31, 1887, is in business at La Crosse Steam Laundry; Bruno Henry, born January 21, 1890, is at home on the farm; Michael P., born December 29, 1891; Agnes G., born December 22, 1893; Frances Emma, born May 12, 1896; Lucia M., born September 17, 1899; Philamena, born May 29, 1902; Francis, born August 7, 1904. Several of the children attended high school at Cashton.

Mrs. Heintz is the fourth child in a family of eleven children, eight of whom are now living. Her father came to America in 1851 and located in Waukesha county, Wisconsin; he was born at Gallinsheim Hessen Dormstadt, Germany, on the Rhine, July 18, 1828. The mother was born August 20, 1831, in Bavaria, Germany, and came to America with her parents in 1849. They were married at Ottawa, Waukesha county, Wis., in 1857, and celebrated their golden wedding April 20, 1907. They have five sons, three daughters and forty-three grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Heintz are members of the Catholic church, while in politics he is a Democrat.

William Heiser, one of the influential and public spirited citizens of Jefferson township, is the son of Adolph Heiser and Elizabeth (Fuhrmeister), both natives of Germany. The father came to America from Germany in 1851 with his brother William, and located at Beloit, Rock county, Wis. He was a watchmaker by trade and followed this occupation for some time in Beloit, when in 1856 he moved to the town of Jefferson, in Monroe county, and purchased 120 acres of land in section twenty-three, and there made his home and engaged in farming for thirty-six years, when he retired from active labor and spent the remainder of his life enjoying the well-earned fruits of his many years of toil. He died at Milwaukee in 1908. He had received a good education in his native county and was a man well posted on all current topics. He was well known in Monroe county as one of the most successful farmers; was prominent in public matters, and all worthy projects received his hearty support. He was a Democrat in politics and took a great interest in the affairs of his party. For several years he was chairman of the town board and clerk of the town, and no man stood higher in the estimation of the community than did he. The mother of our subject, who was a woman of many virtues, died in 1882.

William Heiser was born at Beloit, Wis., October 5, 1854, and is one of a family of five children, four of whom are now (1912) living. He received his education in the district schools which he attended up to his eighteenth year, assisted his father in the farm work and lived on the homestead until his father retired. In 1844 the grandfather, Christopher Fuhrmeister, emigrated from Germany to America and first located at Rockford, Ill., and afterwards, in 1856, removed to Monroe county and purchased a farm of 320 acres in sections twenty-two, twenty-three and twenty-seven, in the town of Jefferson. He was a successful farmer and one of the pioneers of the county. After his death, the farm was

acquired by our subject, who has since made many valuable improvements. In 1904 a large barn was built, the residence was enlarged and the land improved by cultivation so that now it is one of the most fertile and productive farms in Jefferson township, and is located five miles northeast of Cashton, and the farm is well stocked with good cattle, horses and hogs, while the up-to-date methods used in his operations makes him one of the most successful farmers and dairymen in his town. Public spirited and generous, Mr. Heiser has always been active in affairs of his county and has held several offices of the town; he was constable for one year, assessor three years, clerk of the school district for twelve years and is now serving his twelfth term as chairman of the town board. He has also been connected with several business enterprises; he was president of the Farmer's Creamery of Cashton for two years, and treasurer for eight years; vice president of the Monroe County Tornado Insurance Company of Monroe county, and is president of the American Society of Equity; he is a Democrat in politics and active in the councils of his party.

Mr. Heiser has been twice married, first on July 26, 1890, to Miss Matilda M. Smith. Two children were born to this union, viz.: Frederick G., born October 29, 1891, and William J., born April 29, 1893. Mrs. Heister died in 1893, and he married for the second wife Miss Adelia Smith, daughter of Jacob and Kate Smith, October 2, 1899. Her parents were both natives of Germany. The father died in 1904 and the mother survives at the age of eighty years. They had a family of ten children. One daughter has been born to this second marriage—Elsie, born March 7, 1900.

C. C. Helmke*, a resident of Wilton, Monroe county, is an extensive stock raiser and general farmer, and was born in the town of Wilton, September 17, 1864. His parents, Christian and Elizabeth (Marten) Helmke, came from Germany to America in 1850, with one child, and located in Columbus, Wis., for a short time, then moved to Monroe county the following year, where for five years Mr. Helmke worked as a farm laborer. In 1855 he bought a farm of his own, containing eighty acres, in section nine, of the township of Wilton, where he lived for years in a log cabin of two rooms, and later added to his original purchase another eighty-acre tract, all of which was wild land and had to be cleared and broken before any profits could be realized. He died in 1872 and the remaining ones of his family continued to live there, and in 1877 erected a new frame house in which they lived until our subject bought out the interests of the other heirs and erected a fine new residence in 1899, which has since been his home. The

mother died in 1906. They were well educated, thrifty and highly respected people and members of the Lutheran church. He was a Democrat in politics.

C. C. attended school until he was fourteen years of age and was the mainstay of his parents on the farm and instigated most of the later improvements. He was married on June 3, 1897, in the town of Wilton to Mrs. Hannah Pach. Her people also came from Germany and located in Monroe county in 1870; they had eight children, seven of whom are living. They are now living in Wilton, the father at the age of seventy-three and the mother is seventy-one, and both are devoted members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Pach owns 160 acres of fine land in Sheldon township.

Mr. Helmke has been a successful stock raiser for thirty years; he is a Democrat in politics and has served as assessor of the town of Wilton and was also treasurer for three years and for twenty years was a member of the school board.

David Hemstock, a prominent drayman of Sparta, is the second eldest of a family of ten children. He was born in Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, October 13, 1858, to William and Elizabeth (Steadman) Hemstock, natives of England and Canada, respectively. The parents came to Wisconsin more than fifty years ago and located in Milwaukee county, where they remained for a short time and moved to La Crosse county and purchased a farm in Burns township, which by hard work and perseverance they brought to a high state of cultivation and made it their homestead until 1899, when the father died at the age of seventy-three years.

William Hemstock, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Canada, where he spent his life and raised his family of four sons, the third being the father of David, our subject. Mr. Steadman, maternal grandfather, was a native of London, England, and was a captain on the high seas for some time. He came to Canada and made that his home for a number of years, and moved to La Crosse for a short time and later to Chicago, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his life.

Besides David, the other members of his family are Elizabeth, now the wife of N. V. Jewett, of Monroe county, Wisconsin; Fannie, the wife of F. A. Hubbard, of Barron; Sarah (deceased), wife of David Jones; William A., of Sparta; Mary Ellen, wife of Lemuel Jones, of Arkansas; Lillie, wife of John Bowen, of Barron; Ethel and George E., who reside in Sparta, and Gertrude, wife of Chris Thompson, who resides at Ladysmith, Wis.

David was reared on his father's farm, where he remained helping with the farm work until he was twenty-five years of age,

and then took up farming on his own account in Burns township, La Crosse county. Nine years later he moved to Sparta, and in 1894 purchased, with his brother, William, the dray business of Hoffman & Fich, which they successfully conducted under the firm name of Hemstock Brothers for some five years, when David purchased the interest of his brother and has since conducted the business on his own account. He is a wide awake, prosperous and energetic business man, thoroughly up to date. He takes an active part in the fraternal orders to which he belongs, being a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias and the Rebecahs.

Mr. Hemstock was married in December, 1893, to Miss Clara E. Hulbert, daughter of Ira Hulbert, of Sparta. They have one child, Vena Ray Hemstock.

William A. Hemstock, liveryman and popular business man of Sparta, is a native of Wisconsin. He was born in Burns valley, La Crosse county, and is the youngest of a family of ten children, three boys and seven girls born to William and Elizabeth (Steadman) Hemstock, both natives of Canada, who came to the United States in an early day and settled first at Milwaukee. From there they moved to West Salem, and nearly fifty years ago they came to Burns valley, La Crosse county, and located on a farm. They were among the early pioneers of this section and were considered substantial and successful farmers. Here they reared their family and lived until 1899, when the father passed away at the age of seventy-three. Mrs. Hemstock still survives and makes her home at Sparta.

William attended the district schools while living on the farm, and at the age of twenty-three he married Miss Maude Skelton, of Lewis valley, Wisconsin, on November 24, 1892. He then rented a farm, which he worked on his own account for two years. In 1894 he gave up farming and moved to Sparta, where he engaged with his brother, David, in the drayage business, under the firm name of Hemstock Brothers, continuing for about five years; he then sold his interests to his brother and purchased the livery business of J. C. Hewitt, on Oak street, which he carried on for five years before moving to his present quarters on North Water street, and now conducts the largest livery business in Monroe county. Beginning with nine horses, he now has a stock of thirty and other equipment in proportion, and is recognized as one of the leading men of Sparta. He is active in fraternal organizations, being identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern

Woodmen of America and the Equitable Fraternal Union, and is prominent in social circles.

Mr. and Mrs. Hemstock have one daughter—Lila Belle.

George A. Henry, ex-sheriff of Monroe county, was born at Kingston, Ulster county, N. Y., March 18, 1859, to John and Hannah (Steanson) Henry, both of whom were born in Ireland. In 1850, while still a young man, he came to America and located at Kingston, where he served an apprenticeship for three years at the trade of currier, and after working with Neas & Teller for nearly twelve years, he came to Wisconsin in the spring of 1861 and purchased a farm of 120 acres four and one-half miles southwest of Tomah. Possessed with that thrift and energy common to his race, he brought his farm to a high state of cultivation, and there made his home until 1875, when he disposed of his land and returned to Kingston, N. Y. He remained there but a short time, and in 1877 came back to Monroe county, and on May 1 of that year purchased another farm of 120 acres near Jacksonville, and engaged in general farming and stock raising for about eighteen years, whence, in 1895, they moved to the city of Tomah, where Mrs. Henry died May 30, 1910, and where he still lives at the age of seventy-eight years. They had a family of two sons, George A. and William C., and both stood high in their community. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and the mother was a member of the Episcopal church.

George A. Henry was raised on his father's farm and his experience was the same as that of most farmer boys. He attended the district schools and helped with the farm work until he was twenty-three years old, and for five years after his marriage, continued to reside on the home farm, then moved to the city of Tomah and engaged in the milling business for some four years, and from 1892 to 1908 was engaged in the dray business, and for fourteen years was a local agent for the Standard Oil Company. Mr. Henry is a Republican in political views, and is active in the councils of his party, and has been called upon to fill many public offices. He was school treasurer in the town of Adrian for two years and supervisor for one year; he was elected alderman of the city of Tomah from the second ward and served two years, and for four years was treasurer of the fire department. In 1908 he was elected sheriff of his county and served with distinction until 1911. Fraternally Mr. Henry is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Woodmen of the World.

On November 18, 1882, Mr. Henry was united in marriage with Miss Mary Schultz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz, pio-

neers of Monroe county, having come here in 1850. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry have been born five children, four of whom are now living, viz.: Robert W., born July 8, 1883; Arthur J., born February 7, 1887; Fay H., born December 26, 1889; Carl R., born November 12, 1891, and Earle H., born September 24, 1894, is now deceased.

George L. Herbst, a prominent merchant of Sparta, was born here on May 7, 1868, the son of Fidel and Elizabeth (Stauss) Herbst. He attended the public schools in Sparta, and early started in life as a clerk in the store of J. J. Mason & Co.; he remained with this firm for some five years, then went to Watertown, S. D., where he remained for a short time, returning to Wisconsin he found employment with the Foster Lumber Company, of Fairchild, Wis. So well did he fulfill his duties here that he remained in their employ for twelve years. He next engaged with the firm of Kepler & Co., of Eauclaire, Wis., where he remained for about two years, and moved to Sparta again and took a position as clerk with the firm of Dodge & Davis in the dry goods business. During all these years, the one desire uppermost in the mind of Mr. Herbst was the ownership of a store; he had been attentive to business, and with his natural energy and economical tact, at the end of two years with Dodge & Davis, he had accumulated sufficient funds, so that in 1902, associated with his brother, Edward, he embarked in the dry goods business on his own account, which they successfully carried on for a short time, when Mr. Herbst purchased the interest of his brother and became sole proprietor. On February 8, 1905, the business was incorporated under the name of the Herbst Dry Goods Company, which it still retains, and with their new and up-to-date stock of goods, is one of Sparta's busiest and well known business establishments.

In June, 1898, Mr. Herbst married Miss Winnie Kyle, daughter of H. H. Kyle, of Augusta, Wis. Three children have been born to them, viz.: H. Robert, George F. and Elizabeth Herbst.

Fraternally Mr. Herbst is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Maccabees.

Fidel Herbst, father of our subject, was a native of Preussen, Germany, born April 24, 1838. In 1854, when but sixteen years of age, he emigrated to the United States, stopping first at Syracuse, N. Y., where he was employed at the blacksmith trade; he remained there until 1866, when he came to Sparta, and was actively engaged at his trade until a little more than a year prior to his death, which occurred October 3, 1901. A Republican in his

political opinions, he was interested in the affairs of his party and held numerous positions of trust. He was for a time chief engineer of the Sparta fire department; held the office of city treasurer and alderman from his ward, was in the city council and was a member of the Congregation church. He was the son of John Herbst, a native of Sigmaringen, Germany, who was a forester and spent his life in Germany. His wife's maiden name was Katherine Knittel. Fidel Herbst was married November 30, 1861, to Miss Elizabeth Stauss, daughter of Hartman and Katherine Elizabeth Stauss, natives of Germany. He was a merchant tailor in his home country, where he died in 1866, aged sixty-nine years. Mrs. Herbst, mother of our subject, was born September 28, 1841, and was the youngest of a family of seven girls and three boys. Shortly after the death of her father, when but ten years of age, accompanied by her older sister, Sophia, and two others, she came to this country and located at Hazel Green, Wis. She soon after went to Galena, Ill., where she was married to Mr. Herbst. They had a family of six children, viz.: Fred W., of Fairchild, Wis.; Carl C., of Minneapolis; Anna Marie Elizabeth, wife of Congressman John J. Esch, of La Crosse, Wis.; George L., John L. and Edward, all of whom reside at Sparta, where also the mother resides.

Fred B. Herrman, who has been a resident of Monroe county since 1888, is a prosperous and influential farmer of Sparta township. He was born in the town of farmington, La Crosse county, February 9, 1862, and is one of a family of thirteen children, born to William and Katherine (Williams) Herrman. Those besides our subject are: Amelia, now the wife of Frank Huber, resides in La Crosse county; Lucas B. is deceased; Frank A.; Anna, widow of Phillip Corelett; Bessie is the wife of John Rhyme, of Sparta township; Mary is the wife of William Kuhen, of Dodge county, Wisconsin; Matilda is the wife of Kirt C. Squires and lives at Gladstone, N. D.; William resides in Sparta, where he is engaged in the grocery business; Henry resides in Indiana, Robert in La Crosse, and Amos lives in La Crosse county, and Lillian Herrman in La Crosse. The parents were natives of Germany, and after coming to the United States in the early forties, located first in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and later by ox team made their way to La Crosse county, where the father acquired a farm of 200 acres, and successfully engaged in farming, and there made his home until his death in 1900, at the age of seventy-three years. Mrs. Herrman, mother of our subject, passed away in 1901, at the age of sixty-three years.

They were high minded and progressive, and enjoyed the friendship and esteem of all who knew them. The grandfather of Mr. Fred Herrman was Bartle Herrman, also a native of Germany. He came to America and settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he lived for many years, and died on a farm near Waupun.

Fred B. Herrman attended the district school at Farmington, La Crosse county, and remained on the home farm until he arrived at the age of seventeen. He was then employed at farm work by William Storandt, of La Crosse county, and later entered the employ of Sawyer & Austin, in the lumber business, where he remained for three years. He next located on a farm in Burns township, La Crosse county, and there remained two years. He then, in 1888, purchased his present farm of 160 acres, of which forty acres lie in La Crosse county, and 120 acres in Sparta township, in section nineteen, from Martin Flood. Mr. Herrman is one of the thrifty and well-to-do farmers of the county, and his farm is equipped with the latest and modern labor saving machinery, and in 1897 he erected a large barn, to which during the year 1912 will be added an addition of 42 by 60 feet. In 1902, a new and up-to-date residence was erected, and this with his ninety-ton silo and other improvements, makes his one of the ideal country homes in Monroe county. He is engaged in general farming and dairying, and makes a specialty of raising Jersey cattle.

On April 14, 1885, Mr. Herrman was united in marriage with Miss Ida J. Flood, daughter of Martin and Mary (Hammond) Flood, natives of Vermont and Canada respectively. Early in the fifties they came to Ridgeville township, in Monroe county, and located on what is known as the Shulte farm. In 1865, when Mrs. Herrman was four years of age, they removed to the farm in Sparta township where Mr. and Mrs. Herrman now reside. At that time the farm was in a wild state covered with a growth of timber, which Mr. Flood by hard work, thrift and perseverance, succeeded in clearing, and the land was brought to a good state of cultivation, and there made his home until 1902, when he died at the age of eighty-seven years. Mrs. Flood, mother of Mrs. Herrman, died October 24, 1890, aged seventy-one years. Bernard Flood, who resides in the city of Sparta, is the only brother of Mrs. Herrman. To Mr. and Mrs. Herrman has been born three children. Harry F., born May 11, 1888; Harriet, born December 7, 1892, is now a student at the State University, and Robert A., born August 11, 1902.

Mr. Herrman adheres to the principles of the Republican party, and while he has never sought or cared for office, he has been a member of the township board for several years, and was at one time a director and manager of the Rockland creamery.

John Herring, who is justly ranked among the substantial and progressive farmers of Sparta township, is a native son of Monroe county, Wisconsin, and was born on section thirty-six, Sparta township, May 2, 1867, son of Peter and Mary (Smith) Herring, both natives of Germany. The father when yet a young man, left his native land for the United States, and upon arriving in this country, came to Wisconsin and settled first in Leon township, Monroe county, where he found employment as a farm hand. Imbued with the determination to succeed, he went to work with a will, and by strict economy accumulated means with which he purchased a farm of 160 acres in section thirty-six, Sparta township, and commenced farming on his own account. He fought manly the hardships incident to pioneer life, and by hard work, thrift, and judicious management, he mastered all obstacles, improved the farm with a large and commodious dwelling, and outbuildings, and brought the land to a state of cultivation where it produced enormous crops, and at the time of his death, which occurred January 7, 1887, he was considered one of the most influential and substantial farmers of his township, highly respected by all who knew him. His wife, mother of our subject, was a lady of many womanly virtues, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of her large circle of friends. Her death occurred November 2, 1902. They were the parents of seven children, six of whom are now living. Emma is the wife of Archie Doane and resides in Little Falls township; John, the subject of this sketch; Lillie, the wife of George Merrow, of Sparta; Hattie, the wife of Fayette Baldwin, lives at Sparta; William is deceased, having met his death in a dynimite explosion in December, 1903, at the age of twenty-five years; Mary is the wife of Roy Francis, and Frank, both of whom live in Sparta township. Mr. John Herring attended the district schools of his town, assisting in the farm work on the homestead, where he remained until 1900. In the meantime he had purchased a farm of 160 acres in section thirty-five, opposite the old home farm, which he continued to operate until his marriage, when he moved to his present home. Since residing on his present place he has changed and remodeled the buildings erected a new silo, and made other improvements, while bringing the land to a high state of cultivation. He is engaged in general

farming, stock raising and dairying, with the cultivation and raising of berries a specialty. In social matters he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

On April 12, 1900, Mr. Herring was united in marriage with Miss Anna L. Guy, daughter of William N. and Isabella (Nicol) Guy, and granddaughter of Alexander and Anna (Denwoody) Nicol, whose sketches appear elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Herring have been born four sons, Leo Nelson, John Peter, Spencer and William.

Fred Heser, a prosperous farmer of section one, Greenfield township, is the son of Fred and Barbara (Silverhorn) Heser, both natives of Germany, who came to America early in life, settling first at Cleveland, Ohio, where they married; they afterward came to Wisconsin and located at Hartford, remaining there but one year, when in 1856 they moved to Neilsville, in Clark county; they remained there seven years, then in 1863 moved to Monroe county and settled on eighty acres in the town of Eaton, a farm of and a part of the 160 acres now owned by our subject, eighty acres of which is in Greenfield township and eighty acres in the original town of Eaton but which is now Grant township; they first resided on the eighty lying in Eaton, but in 1868 moved to the eighty in Greenfield, where our subject now resides. He was energetic and thrifty, and by hard work subdued his wild land and brought it under cultivation. He was prominent in the affairs of his town and at one time was chairman of the town board. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted and served in the Wisconsin regiment until discharged. He died in 1875 at the age of fifty years, honored and respected by all who knew him. His widow, mother of our subject, still survives and resides at La Crosse. The maternal grandmother, Barbara Silverhorn, came to Wisconsin from Germany, died in Greenfield township and was buried in Tunnel City.

Fred Heser was born in Clark county, Wisconsin, November 8, 1856, and came with his parents to Monroe county when seven years of age, and is the second child in a family of eight children, five of whom are now living, viz: Fred, the subject of this sketch; William, a resident of Greenfield township; Laura, married John Snowberry, and lives in LaGrange township; George, also of LaGrange, and Barbara, who is the wife of C. H. Wickland, resides at Tomah. Those deceased are Helen, Henry and Wallace. Mr. Heser's education was obtained in the district schools, and with the exception of three years spent in

the lumber woods of Clark county, he has resided on the home farm since boyhood. After the death of his father, he, in 1881, came into possession of the place and has since made many improvements. While the original house built by his father still stands in a fair state of repairs, it was replaced in 1911 by a modern residence, equipped with up-to-date appliances. A large and substantial barn was built in 1907. The place is now under a high state of cultivation and well supplied with everything that goes to make a model farm. Mr. Heser is a thorough and practical farmer and occupies a prominent place in his town and county. He has been a member of the side board for two terms and is still a member; he has been treasurer of the school district for six years and in fraternal matters is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

He was married July 2, 1882, to Miss Emma Purdy, daughter of Daniel and Susan (Savage) Purdy, of Greenfield township. To this union has been born Celia, wife of Albert Woodard, of Tunnel City; Earl E., of Greenfield township; Edna, wife of Paul Rosenaw, of LaGrange township; Myrtle E., Verna F., and Fred D. are at home; Robert is deceased. Earl E. Heser married Edith Schuler, daughter of August Schuler, of Tomah, in September, 1909, and has one child, Kenneth R. Celia was the wife of the late Carr Johnson, and has three children, viz: Georgie, Ortis and Thelma, the latter is now the wife of Albert Woodard, by whom she has had two children. Alice and Margaurite; Edna J. married Paul Rosenaw and has one daughter, Luceil.

E. Glenn Hesselgrave, editor and publisher of the Norwalk Star, was born at Westport, Columbia county, Wisconsin, August 10, 1876. Son of David and Hannah (Armour) Hesselgrave, natives of St. Lawrence county, New York, and Baltimore Md., respectively. They came to Wisconsin in 1854, and located at Lodi, where the father followed blacksmithing, and where they remained for twenty years. He died September 19, 1911, in his ninetieth year. He was an ordained clergyman of the Universalist church, and was also well posted in law. His wife, the mother of our subject, survives at the age of seventy-four years.

E. Glenn was the eighth child in a family of ten children; the others are: Mary, wife of Niles Fellows of Madison; Clarence, of Lodi; Isabella, wife of Scott Nutting, Eldorado, Iowa; Miles, Long Prairie, Minn.; Florence, wife of W. J. Harriman, Baraboo; Blanche, wife of Hon. C. L. Pearson, of Baraboo; Alfred, St. Cloud, Minn.; Claude, Prairie Du Sac, Wis.; and Leroy, of Lodi. Our subject was educated in the public schools

of Lodi, and early began the printers trade at Eldorado, Iowa; was then employed at Lodi, Baraboo, and various papers, and in November, 1907, purchased the Norwalk Star of W. J. Robinson, which he has since continued to publish as a non-partisan paper, changing the size from a quarto to a folio. He was married October 17, 1910, to Miss Anna McGary, daughter of Eugene McGary of Norwalk.

Ira A. Hill was born in Belknap county, New Hampshire, on November 26, 1841, and died at Pasadena, Calif., where he was spending the winter, on March 20, 1904.

He received his education at Gilmanton Academy, in his native state, and later taught school. In 1862 he recruited for the Fifteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, enlisted therein and was appointed third sergeant. His regiment being sent to New York, he was detached and detailed as commissary sergeant on board transport of General Banks' expedition to New Orleans, and after reaching there, continued in the commissary department until, stricken with fever ,he was sent to the hospital. Upon convalescence he rejoined his regiment at Carrollton, La., and was employed in the regimental adjutant's office. In the fall of 1863 he was mustered out from the military service, returned to his native state and spent an invalid year.

In 1864 Mr. Hill managed the business department of the Galena (Ill.) Gazette, the editorial charge of the paper falling under a former New Hampshire acquaintance. After two years, meantime making the acquaintance of U. S. Grant and his brother, Orville, he was employed for one year with Grant & Burke in the leather and saddlery hardware business at Chicago. Entering the firm of Davis, Medary & Hill, who acquired the La Crosse, Wis., branch of the Grant & Burke business, Mr. Hill spent two years, during which time he was married to Mary E. Tyler, only daughter of Thomas B. Tyler, of Sparta, Wis., their marriage occurring December 8, 1868.

Disposing of his interests at La Crosse in 1871, he removed to Sparta and engaged in the wholesale grocery business, later entering the drug business. In 1874 he united with Thomas B. Tyler, under the firm name of Tyler & Hill, in the real estate and loan business, which, together with banking, occupied Mr. Hill during the rest of his life. In 1879 he became a director in the Bank of Sparta, was vice president in 1883 and president from 1886 until his death in 1904.

Mr. Hill was a representative citizen and successful business man, taking an interest in whatever tended to promote the moral

and intellectual growth of the community. He served for ten consecutive years on the school board of Sparta, was in the city council and the board of supervisors.

In 1891 he was appointed regent of the normal schools of Wisconsin by Governor Peck, of which board he was president, 1894-5. As a Democrat in politics, he was a delegate and again was alternate delegate to national conventions. He was a member and past commander of John W. Lynn Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

As a Mason he took an active part in the lower bodies, being past high priest of the chapter and past eminent commander of the commandery. He was grand king of Wisconsin grand chapter and grand representative of North Carolina, near the grand chapter of Wisconsin. He was a member of Wisconsin Consistory and of the shrine at Milwaukee.

He was also a member of the Knights of Pythias and other orders.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill had two children, Louis T., who is a resident of Sparta and vice president of the Bank of Sparta, and Kittie, who is the wife of A. W. Barney, also vice president of the Bank of Sparta.

Merle W. Hill,* manager of the F. P. Mooney farm in La Grange township, was born in Tomah, Wis., December 22, 1888, the son of Oliver Mason and Sophia (Sprague) Hill, natives of Cortland county, New York, and who were married in Illinois. He was a pioneer settler in Wisconsin, and came to Monroe county and Tomah township more than forty years ago, where he settled on 200 acres of wild land, which he improved and where he continued to live until his death in 1910, at the age of seventy-three years. He was one of Monroe county's thrifty and progressive farmers, a man of prominence and influence in his township. The mother of our subject, a woman of rare attainments and domestic virtues, died in October, 1909, at the age of seventy years, loved and esteemed by all who knew her. They had a family of nine children, as follows: Ira, Ernest, both of Tomah; Emma, wife of Edwin Eaton, of Waukesha, Wis.; Caddie C., of Tomah township; Ella, wife of F. J. Mooney, superintendent of the Monroe County Asylum, and Merle W. Those deceased are William, Oscar and Jessie.

Merle W. Hill attended the district school of his neighborhood and remained at home assisting in the farm work until 1911, when he became manager of the Mooney farm, where he carries on general farming and dairying, conducting a milk route in the

city of Tomah. He is a member of the Mystic Workers, and on June 28, 1911, was married to Miss Blanche Dana, daughter of Edward and Ella Dana, of Tomah. They have one child—Bulah S. Hill.

Oliver Mason Hill, deceased, who was a pioneer settler of Wisconsin and was among that class of sturdy, thrifty and progressive farmers to whom Monroe county is so largely indebted for the high place it holds among the banner counties of the state. He was born April 14, 1837, in Cortland county, New York, a son of Samuel H. Hill, who was born March 12, 1794. When Oliver was but three years of age his parents came west to Illinois and located in Kane county, where they made their home until they came to Monroe county in 1865. Here the father purchased 200 acres of land and established the family home, and here they lived the balance of their lives—his death occurring in Colorado March 12, 1870, whither he had gone in search of health. His wife, grandmother of our subject, survived him thirteen years, and died in Monroe county in August, 1883. He was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, and ever after was a staunch supporter of this party, and in religious belief a Universalist.

Oliver Mason Hill was educated in the public schools of Kane county, Illinois, which he attended up to his eighteenth year, remaining at home. At the death of his parents he inherited the family homestead and continued to carry on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of high bred Jersey and Durham cattle, which he often entered in competition with others for first prize at stock exhibitions. He was a successful farmer, a man of sterling character, faithful in all his undertakings and no one in the community was more highly respected than he. In politics a Republican, he was a strong advocate in the cause of temperance and was formerly a member of the Grange organization and secretary and treasurer of the Eastern Monroe County Agricultural Society.

Mr. Hill was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Sprague, October 13, 1861. Nine children were born to them, six of whom are now living, viz.: Ina, born December 10, 1862; Ella, born November 10, 1864; Ernest, born August 26, 1876; Emma, born December 10, 1878; Caddie C., born February 12, 1881, and Merle, born December 22, 1888, and survive the father whose death occurred in 1910 at the age of seventy-three years. Those deceased are William H., Oscar S. and Jesse P. Hill. William was drowned in the Lemonweir river in 1881.

Caddie C. Hill was raised on his father's farm and attended

OLLIVER M. HILL AND FAMILY

the district school until he was seventeen years old, and helped with the farm work. At the death of his father, he came into possession of the home farm of 200 acres, which he has successfully carried on, and since added 170 acres more. He is among the younger class of Monroe county's prominent and progressive citizens. A Republican in political sentiment, he has never sought nor held public office. He has been secretary of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Tomah, and for one year served as president of the Monroe County Fair Association, and is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants' Bank, of Tomah. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Hill being unmarried, the household duties are looked after by his aunt, Mrs. Mary Amidon. She was married June 1, 1862, to Llwellen Amidon, a prominent citizen, civil engineer and county surveyor of Monroe county and locator of Government and school lands, and in politics a Republican. At the time of his death in 1898 he was the owner of an eighty-acre farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Amidon were born four children, two of whom are now (1912) living.

William Hoard, one of the progressive and enterprising citizens of Wilton, was born in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, April 13, 1859, the son of Philander and Nancy (Reed) Hoard, both natives of the Buckeye state. They reared a family of three children, William, the subject of this sketch, being the only surviving member of the family. They were farmers by occupation and were among the prominent and most highly respected citizens of their locality. The father died in 1862 and the mother passed away in 1874.

William received his education in the common schools, and was thrown on his own resources at the early age of thirteen years. He worked eight months on a farm at small wages, and was later employed by one man for eight years, the highest wages received during this time being $12 per month. He came to Wisconsin with his mother and brother from Michigan, and located in Wilton township, Monroe county, where, on March 15, 1882, he purchased 120 acres of land in section twenty-eight, where he lived, engaging in general farming until 1911, when he removed to the village of Wilton. In addition to his successful general farming, he has carried on an extensive dairy business, having a herd of twenty-eight Jersey milch cows. He is an extensive breeder and owner of Jersey cattle and Poland-China hogs, and is kept busy managing his farm. He is one of the influential and public spirited men of his town, and has always taken an active interest in all matters for the betterment of his town and county. He is now president

of the Farmers' Livestock Association, and in politics he is a Democrat and takes an active interest in the councils of his party.

He was married March 15, 1882, to Miss LaRue, daughter of S. B. LaRue, a prominent citizen of Wilton township. Mrs. Hoard is one of a family of seven children. Her parents were also natives of Ohio and emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in the town of Wilton in 1858, and were among the early settlers of that town. The father purchased 280 acres of wild land in section twenty-eight, where the family lived for ten years in a log house of one room. They then built a small frame house, where they lived for thirty-eight years, and then erected a fine residence. The large and well constructed barns and silo have recently been added to the improvements, all of which go to make it an ideal up-to-date country home. The father died in 1911 and the mother passed away in 1897. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoard, viz.: Mildred, born March 24, 1883; Glenn, born June 18, 1886, and Ray, born April 28, 1889.

Reuben Hohn is another one of the native sons of Monroe county and was born in the town of Wells, April 17, 1864, the son of Cyrus Hohn and Sarah (Sherwood) Hohn, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Wisconsin. The father came to Wisconsin when a young man and worked on a farm and in a sawmill and later at the carpenter's trade, which he had previously mastered. He lived in Wisconsin until his children became grown, where he died in 1906. He was twice married, first to Miss Sarah Sherwood, by whom he had nine children. After her death he married for his second wife Miss Sarah Miller. Samuel Hohn, grandfather of our subject, also came to Wisconsin. Reuben attended the common schools during his boyhood and after the death of his mother lived nine years with Mr. Al. Fulton. He then found employment on a farm at $10 per month. At the age of twenty-four years, in 1888, he was married to Miss Cornelia May Hudson, daughter of William, from England, and Lizzie Hudson, whose family came originally from Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Hohn have two children, Ellis, born December 8, 1890, and Della, born March 18, 1892. In 1912 Mr. Hohn purchased 160 acres of choice land in Leon township, adjoining Wells, where he is well and favorably known as one of the progressive men of the county.

Hans C. Hoitomt, who is the son of Adolph and Maren (Skulerud) Hoitomt, was born in Norway, November 14, 1873, and when seven years of age came to America with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Olson, who located in the town of Portland,

Monroe county, Wis., where our subject was reared. The uncle died in 1902, his aunt is still living at the age of eighty-three years. Mr. Hoitomt started out in life for himself and was engaged in running a thrashing machine, and also operated a sawmill for a time in Vernon county, and afterwards came to Monroe county and located at Melvina, and with others engaged in the lumber business, dealing extensively in pine and hemlock lumber. Outside of the lumber business, he owns considerable property, among which may be mentioned several ice houses in Vernon and Monroe counties. He also deals extensively in cord wood, shipping many carloads to eastern markets each year. He also controls and operates the transfer line at Melvina. Besides his many business ventures, Mr. Hoitomt takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county, and is treasurer of the Melvina Creamery Association. He is the owner of the largest private fish pond in the state, which covers an area of five acres, and which was converted from a mill pond by Captain Hunt in his lifetime, and is plentifully stocked with thousands of black bass and bull heads, weighing up to five pounds each. Mr. Hoitomt is figuring on marketing this product in the near future and will ship to eastern markets.

In 1898 Mr. Hoitomt was married to Miss Dora Olson, by whom he has five children, viz.: James, Morris, Viola, Harold and Gordon Hoitomt. In political sentiment Mr. Hoitomt was formerly a Republican, but now is independent in thought and action, while in fraternal matters he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Fred A. Holden, deputy register of deeds of Monroe county, is a native of New York State, having been born at Ellicottville, June 19, 1849, the son of Amos B. and Mary L. (Lynes) Holden, who were also natives of that state. In 1855, when Fred A. was six years of age, his parents came to Sparta; soon after arriving at what was to be the future home, his father engaged in business with D. R. Wheeler and W. S. Newton as contractors and builders. Mr. Holden, Sr., had the honor of building the first hardware store erected in Sparta, but which was later destroyed by fire. He continued this business for some years and then engaged in farming. Among the many buildings erected by him besides the hardware store was the Congregational church, of which he was a devoted member. In 1905 he passed from this life to his well-earned reward at the age of eighty years. Not only did he stand high in the community as a citizen, but also in his home and domestic relations, and among his friends he was greatly beloved

and esteemed for his loyalty and devotion to those near and dear to him. His wife, mother of our subject, preceded her husband to the grave, having passed away in 1897, at the age of seventy years. She was a woman of charming disposition and many womanly virtues. Amos B. Holden was the son of Arnold Holden, a native of Massachusetts, who settled in Western New York in an early day, and there lived to the age of ninety-six years. His wife was Patience Tanner, who lived to the age of ninety-eight years. The paternal great grandfather of our subject was a native of Ireland, who came to this country and settled on Nantucket Island, where he made cloth after the plan of those early times.

Fred A. Holden was raised on a farm and received his education in the public schools of Sparta. He remained on the home farm until he was twenty-four years of age, and then for eleven years was engaged as traveling salesman for a wholesale implement house. He afterwards purchased a farm of his own and besides farming, he worked at various times with his father at the carpenters' trade, and later took up civil engineering, which he followed for twenty-five years, twelve years of which time he was county surveyor, and during this period he became familiar with all parts of Monroe county. Since the fall of 1910 he has been deputy register of deeds under his son, William A., and has prepared a valuable map of the county.

Mr. Holden is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On January 14, 1886, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Miller, daughter of Samuel Miller, of Milwaukee. Their children are William A. and Mabel.

William A. Holden, register of deeds of Monroe county, was born in Sparta township, Monroe county, February 6, 1887. His parents, Fred A. and Mary M. (Miller) Holden, are natives of New York state and Switzerland respectively, the former being born at Ellicottville, and the latter at Argon. His paternal grandparents also were natives of New York state, came to Sparta in 1855, where they lived until their decease; his death occurred in 1905, at the age of eighty years, and hers in 1897, at the age of seventy years.

William A. was reared on the home farm, receiving his education at the Angelo district school. He followed farming pursuits until 1905, when he became rural mail carrier on Route Number Three, from Sparta, which occupation he followed until the fall of 1910, when he was elected on the Republican ticket

by a majority of 1200 to the office of register of deeds, which position he is filling to the satisfaction of his many friends, and the citizens of the community generally. His term of office will expire in 1913.

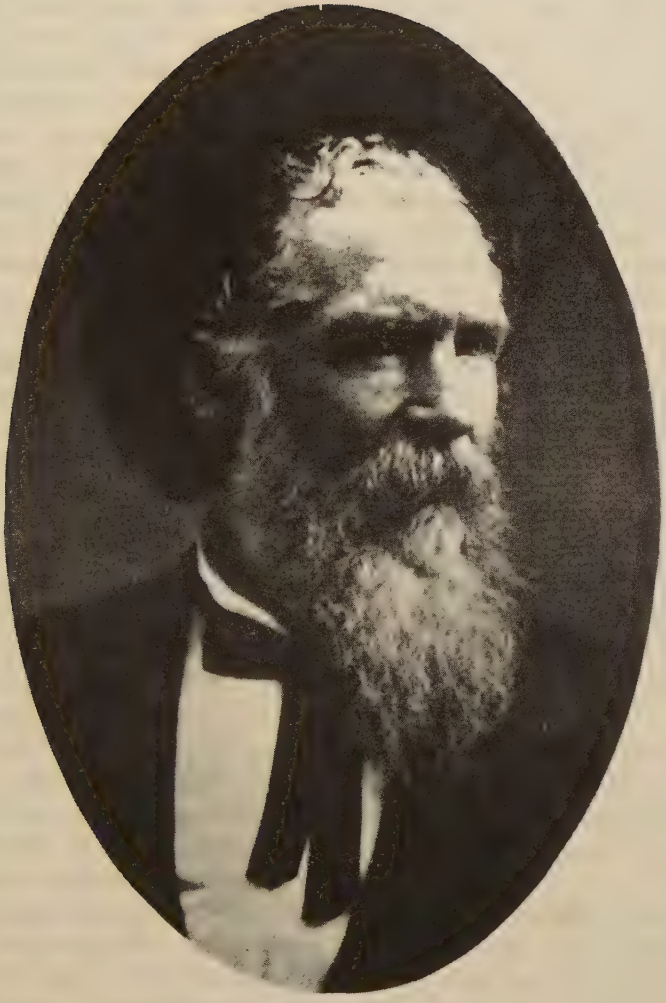
Mr. Holden has been a member of company L, third regiment Wisconsin national guards since April, 1903, and is now, 1912, first lieutenant of his company. Also a member of Sparta lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F. On November 22, 1910, he was married to Miss Anna K. Axelson, daughter of Asmus Axelson, a popular and prosperous citizen of Sparta township.

Albert E. Hollister*, a well-known and popular citizen of Tomah, where he has lived for more than forty years, was born in Lima, Livingston county, New York, May 26, 1845. His father, John Hollister, was a native of Osnabruck, Ontario, where he was born in 1819. He served as a soldier in the English army in the Patriot War. When eighteen years of age, he went to the town of Lima, N. Y., and while a resident of that place, married Miss Mercy S. Irish, a native of Livingston county, and daughter of David Irish, a soldier in the American army in the War of 1812, and died of wounds received while in that war. When our subject was three years of age, he removed with his parents to Cass county, Michigan, where they settled on a farm and where the father died in 1887. His wife, mother of our subject, made her home on the homestead until her demise. They were of sterling character, influential in their community and universally esteemed and beloved.

Albert E. Hollister is the eldest of a family of eight children —five sons and three daughters. The second in order of birth is Mary E., who married G. M. Wilson; Charles R., second son and third child in order of birth, was killed by an accident when seven years of age; Bennett L.; Wilber W.; Ellen M., married Perry Osborne and died in Barton county Missouri, in 1875; Gordon L., and Elvene M., married to J. H. Long and resides in Michigan. The subject of this sketch was reared on the farm and trained in that occupation. He received a common school education in the district schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of seventeen in August, 1862, he enlisted in company A., nineteenth regiment Michigan volunteer infantry, but being of under age, he was released on demand of his father, and hired out as a farm laborer, which he followed but a few days and again enlisted, but with the same results. After remaining at home one year, he again enlisted and this time "stuck." (A detailed account of Mr. Hollister's military career will be found

in another chapter of this volume.) At the close of the war Mr. Hollister returned to his former home in Michigan, and on September 10, 1865, married Miss Charlotte A. Powell, daughter of Jason and Mary A. Powell. In 1866 he came to Wisconsin but remained only a short time and returned to Michigan. In 1868 he came again to Wisconsin and was for two years engaged in lumbering in the woods. He then came to Monroe county and settled on a farm in the township of Tomah, but his health failing on account of wounds received in the army, he was compelled to retire from active farm work and moved to the city of Tomah and engaged in the sale of musical instruments, and has since here made his home. Mr. and Mrs. Hollister have two children—Mary Bell, born May 9, 1870, married Walter S. Mason, head bookkeeper for G. F. Swift & Sons, of Omaha, Nebr., and John R., born September 2, 1873. Mr. Hollister is a Republican in political sentiments, and a strong supporter of Robert M. LaFollette. He is a man of fine personal qualities and social standing, courteous in manner, of generous impulses and a lover of good cheer.

Sylvanus Holmes. The late Judge Holmes, of Sparta, was a native of the Empire state, and was born in 1816. Sylvanus Holmes had a marked and interesting personality, and had passed through many striking and romantic adventures in the course of his long life. His youth, up to the age of nineteen, was passed upon his father's farm at the suburban village of Aurora near Buffalo, N. Y. He was kept hard at work for most of the year, picking up such education as he could in the winter months at the district school. In 1834, he took boat for Detroit, where he made a brief stay. He worked at Niles, Michigan, that winter, and then went by foot to Racine, where he found a very small village, among a good many stumps. He spent the summer with a party of government surveyors, returned to Racine for the winter, and in the spring of 1836, went with a large party of Indians, by way of Chicago, to Council Bluffs, having a position in the commissary department. The country was almost wholly without roads or inhabitants. The journey occupied six months. About the first of January, 1837, he and a friend bought a canoe, and with a small stock of provisions, started on the Missouri river, not knowing how far it was to the first settlement. After five days provisions gave out, but Holmes, who was a good shot, brought down a fine deer, and with the supply of venison the young men renewed their journey. Once they were followed and shot at by Indians, but got away under cover of night.



JUDGE SYLVANUS HOLMES

After eleven days they came to a cabin occupied by two white men, and thence they started on foot for St. Joseph, then a mere trading post, being forced to stop for one night on the cold prairie with the wolves howling around them. The winter they spent at Plattsburgh, Missouri, and thence Holmes went by boat and stage to Peoria, Ill., where he was persuaded by a contractor to accompany another band of Indians to Council Bluffs, serving out provisions and keeping accounts. In the spring of 1837, he commenced trade for himself a few miles below Council Bluffs, and the fall of that year he built the first hewed log house on the site where Omaha now stands. Being prostrated by a severe, persistent fever and ague he was compelled to leave the country and returned to his early home. In 1840 he went to Hume, N. Y., where he lived for several years, filling various public offices. In 1842 he was married to Miss Mary Ann Stone, at Varysburg, N. Y. Mrs. Holmes died at the age of sixty-five years. In 1846 he removed to Bradford, Pa., where he lived for twenty years. While there he served as justice of the peace, as county commissioner for three years, and associate judge of the county for five years. In 1861 he enlisted for the war, raised a company of volunteers and received a commission as first sergeant. He was subsequently promoted to be adjutant in the fifty-eighth regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers, but was compelled to resign on account of ill health. From 1863 to the close of the war he was provost marshal of his congressional district.

In 1865 he came to Sparta and became a merchant here, as he had been at Bradford. In 1869 he removed to Wilmar, Minn., and was judge of probate of the county for five years. He then returned to Sparta, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred January 23, 1895.

Judge Holmes was emphatically a good man, who commanded the respect of all. He was an honored member of the Congregational church, having been one of the deacons from 1883 until his death. In politics he was a radical prohibitionist, expressing his opinion with positiveness and frequency but with courtesy. His height was over six feet and his size in proportion, and with his erect bearing and firm step he was, perhaps, the most military figure in Sparta, at least since Major Davidson passed away. He was a member of the Masonic order and the Grand Army post. His three children are: Mrs. E. M. Calhoun (deceased), Mrs. Robie Lee, of Sparta, and Eugene S. Holmes, of Billings, Montana.

Mathias Hoveland, a native of Norway, was born in 1853 and died in Angelo township in 1909. It was in 1869 that he came to the United States, and in Vernon county, Wisconsin, the subject of this sketch began the active duties of his farm life and first located on a farm near Westby, where he remained for two years. At the end of that time he removed to Viroqua, and twenty-one years later to eastern Monroe county, and there resided until 1901, when he located on the farm in section five, Angelo township, where his widow and family now reside. This farm of 220 acres is among the best in the township and Mr. Hoveland did much to improve and bring the land to its present high state of cultivation. The residence, barns and outbuildings are large, commodious and well constructed, and the place is well supplied with up-to-date appliances used in modern farming methods.

Mr. Hoveland had one brother, Andrew, and three sisters, viz.: Matie, Christina and Bertha. He was a good citizen, a prominent and useful man in his community, and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Beavers.

On September 23, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Emma Van Dyke, daughter of Abraham Van Dyke, of Ohio. To this union was born five children, as follows: Ethel, wife of Eli Sutherland, of Tunnel City; Christina, wife of Ray Webster, of Sparta; Asa, who conducts the home farm; Hazel, wife of Chester Green, of Sparta, and Harold, who resides at home.

George A. Hoffman is a native of Monroe county, and represents one of the pioneer German families who came to the county in the early fifties and located in Jefferson township, where George A. was born August 25, 1857. His parents were John E., who met an untimely death by being thrown from a horse in 1867 —he was at that time forty-five years of age—and Elizabeth (Seymour) Hoffman, who died in 1882 at the age of fifty-nine years. They followed the occupation of farming and until George A. was nineteen years old he lived with his parents on the homestead, attending school and assisting in the farm work.

Upon leaving home our subject's first employment was with O. D. Stevens, and later with the firm of Myer & Youngman in the butcher business at Sparta, where he remained about three years altogether, and then engaged with his brother, William C., in the same business. This partnership continued until he purchased a half interest with William Potter in a meat market on Oak street, and this lasted for several years. He next sold his interests to his brother William, and in 1905 opened his present market on Water street by purchasing Lyon Conger's half

interest, and the firm name became Doxrud & Hoffman, continuing until 1911, when he purchased his partner's interest and thus assumed entire control, where he now reigns both successfully and independently. He was also, in the meantime, for a short while connected with his two brothers, William C. and J. H. Hoffman.

Mr. Hoffman is a man of extraordinary business ability and since his first venture on his own resources he has seldom undertaken a proposition that has not yielded to his benefit. "Fair Dealing" is his motto, and to this he attributes his success. He is a good conversationalist and interests his hearers with many incidents of early pioneer days, when the ox team was a fixture on the homestead farm, and the wearing apparel was made by hand for the family of eight, of which he was the sixth child. He also recalls vividly the responsibility of the mother in rearing the family after the death of the father and of his own part in helping to cultivate the 280-acre farm.

On November 9, 1883, Mr. Hoffman married Miss Julia T. Nolan, daughter of Andrew and Anna Nolan, of Ridgeville, Wis. Their children are Arch W., Myrtle Ann, Alica Elizabeth and Harvey W. Hoffman.

Julius H. Hoffman, brother of William C. and George A. Hoffman, all of Sparta, who has been a lifelong resident of Monroe county, was born in Jefferson township November 12, 1861, to John and Elizabeth (Seymour) Hoffman, pioneer Germans of this township, having located here in the fifties.

Born and raised on a farm, Mr. Hoffman attended the district schools of his native township and the public school of Sparta. His early life was spent on the homestead farm and upon leaving that he was engaged in the butcher business at Sparta with his brothers for about eight years, and then engaged in the retail grocery business, but this was of short duration and he went into the harness and saddlery business in Sparta, and after making a success of this for about ten years he concluded to try the real estate business, and in the year 1908 he formed a partnership with William Pearson, of Winnipeg, of the firm of William Pearson Company (Limited), with offices in Sparta, dealing largely in western lands and the Last Mountain valley. They also handle farm and city property in Monroe county and Sparta.

Mr. Hoffman is a high-minded, public-spirited man, and is interested in whatever relates to the well being or betterment of his community. He is actively identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

He was for fourteen years chief of the fire department and served two terms as member of the city council from the Third ward.

On June 10, 1890, Mr. Hoffman was united in marriage with Miss Capitola Chamberlain, daughter of C. B. and Lois Chamberlain, of Sparta.

William C. Hoffman is one of the well-known and substantial citizens of Sparta. He is of German lineage and a native of Chicago, Ill., born May 14, 1854, the son of John and Elizabeth (Seymour) Hoffman, both natives of Germany, and were among the sturdy pioneers that came and settled in Monroe county in the early fifties. They located in Jefferson township on a farm and commenced to break up and subdue the wild land, and had but scarcely begun to improve his farm and make his way when the Civil War broke out and he was drafted for service in a Wisconsin regiment. Feeling it a necessity and duty to remain at home and care for his large family he hired a substitute for $1,000 to take his place in the service, and had got nicely started on the reduction of his war debt when he met an untimely death by an accident with a horse at the age of forty-five years. His death was a great loss to the family and left the future management and development of the home farm with the mother, which by energy and untiring efforts on her part, and the aid of her sons, was successfully carried on, and 100 of the 250-acre farm was placed in a high state of cultivation.

William C. began early in life to make his own way and lay the foundation for the future successful business career he has since enjoyed, and at the age of fifteen he came to Sparta and found employment in the butcher business under James Bulser, receiving for his first services $5, which was raised to $15 a month, and at the expiration of the third year he returned to the farm for a short time, but the desire for a more active life prevailed and he again returned to Sparta and took up the butcher business, working for some time with various firms, and finally he with two others purchased the business of his first employer and the style of the firm was Potter, Audis & Hoffman. At the end of three years Mr. Hoffman purchased the interest of Audis and the business was carried on for the next five years under the name of Potter & Hoffman. At this time Mr. Potter sold his interest to Mr. Hoffman and he then associated with his two brothers and the name became Hoffman Brothers, with a prosperous business until 1904, when Mr. William Hoffman sold a half interest to his brother, J. E. Hoffman, and a half interest to Jefferson Hollenbeck, and retired.

A resident of Monroe county for half a century, and starting in life without capital, Mr. Hoffman has by hard work, economy and good business judgment, worked his way to success and has gained a competency with which to enjoy the remaining years of his life. He is in the true sense a self-made man, one of good moral character, enterprising and public spirited. Mr. Hoffman is also a public benefactor in that he has made it possible for several young persons to receive a practical education, thus starting them on the road to success in life. He is an extensive property owner, and in 1890 built a shop costing some $6,000, and has since then erected several other substantial buildings. He is a director in the Monroe County Bank, is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is identified with every movement for the improvement and betterment of his city.

On January 28, 1878, Mr. Hoffman was married to Miss Mary Fitzgerald, daughter of Patrick Fitzgerald, of Sparta.

Edwin S. Hubbard, a successful farmer of Sheldon township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he was born February 6, 1862, is a son of William and Mary (Saxby) Hubbard, both natives of England. The father came to America in the early fifties before his marriage and located in Walworth county, where for a time he worked as a laborer, and later moved to Monroe county and settled in the town of Forest, and in 1857 went to Sheldon township, where he purchased 120 acres of land in sections fourteen and fifteen and resided there for thirty years, engaged in general farming. In 1887 he went to Tennessee and remained five years, returning to the homestead at the end of that time, sold the farm to Edwin S. and retired from active labor. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard had a family of three children, all of whom are now living. During his farming operations Mr. Hubbard dealt extensively in stock raising, making a specialty of Oxford sheep, of which he was a successful breeder. He had the first wheat ground at the first grist mill established at Sparta, using an ox team to take it there. Mr. Hubbard was one of the early settlers of Sheldon township and experienced his share of the trials and hardships of the pioneer. He was one of the foremost citizens of the county, high minded and public spirited. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard were both members of the Baptist church and contributed liberally to its support. After a long and well spent life Mr. Hubbard passed away in 1903, honored and respected by all who knew him. The death of Mrs. Hubbard occurred in 1883.

Edwin S. was raised on the home farm and attended the district schools until he was twelve years of age, assisting in the farm

work, and was the mainstay of his father. He has always lived on the home farm, which he purchased in 1888, and has since carried it on on his own account. He is a successful general farmer and his place is well improved by cultivation and substantial buildings. He employs the most up-to-date methods in his farming operations and keeps his place well supplied with modern equipments, and a good grade of horses, cattle, hogs and sheep, and makes a specialty of dairying. He is independent in politics and takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county. He has served as clerk of the town one year, for two years was treasurer of his town, and for several years school clerk. He is one of the organizers of the Norwalk creamery and is now its president, and has been the past five years.

On February 22, 1888, Mr. Hubbard was married in the town of Sheldon to Miss Josephine Falk, daughter of Fred and Fredrica Falk, natives of Germany. Mrs. Hubbard is one of a family of eleven children, reared and brought up at Medsker's Valley. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard, viz.: Lillian, Verna and William Hubbard.

Walter W. Hughart, who has been a resident of Monroe county for some fifteen years, is one of the prosperous farmers and business men who are worthy of special mention in this work. He was born July 26,, 1871, in Richland county, Wisconsin, and is the son of Daniel R. and Elsie M. (Brown) Hughart. His father came from Ohio and his mother from New York. They were married in 1869 in Wisconsin, and moved to Richland county in 1848, where they lived until about 1902, and, after spending some time in Oregon, they located in Spokane, Wash. The father died in Spokane in 1911 at the age of sixty years. The mother still survives and resides in Spokane, Wash.

Walter W. obtained a good education in the district schools and at the age of seventeen began to earn his own living. He was faithful, steady and economical in his habits, and after a few years he had accumulated sufficient money from his savings with which to purchase a farm of 120 acres in sections eleven and twelve in the township of Oakdale. On November 28, 1895, he was married, in Mt. Pleasant township, Green county, Wisconsin, to Miss Phila A. Richards, daughter of James and Jane Richards, old settlers and early pioneers of that county. Her people came originally from England on the paternal side, and the mother descended from one of the Lords of the House of Parliament. After his marriage, he disposed of the 120-acre farm and purchased another 120-acre tract in section fourteen of Oakdale town-

ship, where they located and now reside, he being considered one of the most successful men in the business. His methods of conducting the farm are up to date and his land is in a high state of productiveness. In connection with his general farming, he makes a specialty of dairying and poultry raising, from which he derives a regular income. He was one of the organizers of the Oakdale Co-operative Butter Association, and is a man of good business ability. He is a Democrat in politics and for three years has been clerk of the town of Oakdale. He is also a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughart have a family of ten children, all of whom are living, viz: Ruth I., born September 7, 1896; S. Edith, born December 31, 1897; Eunice, born January 20, 1899; J. Stanly, born December 29, 1900; Wilber H., born July 3, 1902; Lillie, born April 3, 1904; Elsie, born May 8, 1905; Gertrude, born April 23, 1907; Phila, born December 3, 1908, and James Daniel, born December 31, 1910.

Evan Humphrey,* who ranks among the progressive farmers of Monroe county, was born at Bangor, LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, April 15, 1879, to G. G. and Catherine (Meredith) Humphrey, both natives of Wales. Sometime during the fifties they decided to come to the United States, and soon after arriving in this country came West to Wisconsin, and settled on a farm near Bangor, in LaCrosse county. He was a mason by trade and followed this honest calling as demand warranted in connection with his farming. He was a man of high ideals, kind-hearted and generous, a devoted member of the Calvinistic Methodist Episcopal church, and contributed liberally to its support. He took a lively interest in public affairs, and was a member of the school board for twenty-five years, and was a member of the town board at the time of his death, which occurred in 1894, at the age of sixty-seven years. His widow, mother of our subject, is a woman of fine mental attainments and still survives.

Evan was reared on the home farm, receiving his education in the district schools. He started life on his own account in 1898, when nineteen years of age; he took charge of and carried on his father's farm with marked success for some five years, and in 1903 came to Monroe county and purchased his present farm of 160 acres from J. T. Hutson, and has since continued as one of the leading farmers of Sparta township, pursuing up-to-date methods which have brought him successful results. He follows general farming and dairying, and makes a specialty of raising Guernsey cattle.

Mr. Humphrey was united in marriage with Miss Rose Hutson, daughter of J. T. Hutson, in 1903, and to this union has been born three children—Tracy J., Gladys Irene and Hugh Meredith—all of whom reside at home with their parents. Mr. Humphrey takes an active interest in the affairs of his township, is a member of the town board, and all matters he considers for the welfare of his community he gives his active support. He is a member of the Big Creek Methodist Episcopal church and contributes of his means to its support.

Andrew Hutson, a prosperous farmer and well known citizen of Monroe county, is a lifelong resident of the county, having been born in Farmers Valley, Angelo township, February 21, 1859, son of Solomon and Maria (Winterburn) Hutson. They were natives of England and came to the United States, settling first in the State of New York. Soon thereafter they came to Wisconsin, and in 1856 traveled overland by team from Milwaukee to Angelo township, where they were among the pioneer settlers of that section. They engaged in farming and there made their home until Andrew reached the age of two years, when they moved to the Leon Valley in Leon township, and in 1868 came to Sparta township and located on a farm of 145 acres in section seven, where our subject now resides. At the time of locating on this farm in the Big Creek Valley, it had an orchard of ten acres which was valued at $1,000, but the balance of the farm was mostly covered with stumps. By energy, hard work and perseverance these were soon removed, and the land transformed into one of the most fertile spots in the valley. New buildings have been erected, consisting of an up-to-date residence equipped with modern conveniences, large and commodious barns and other outbuildings. Other improvements have been made from time to time, until it has become one of the most ideal farm homes to be found in Monroe county, and, being located in one of the picturesque localities of Big Creek Valley, has a peculiar charm all its own. Mr. Hutson, father of Andrew, died January 1, 1878, aged fifty-two years, and his wife, mother of our subject, passed away in 1870 at the age of thirty-seven. Mr. Andrew Hutson is the second child of a family of three children, the others being Emma, who is the wife of Robert E. Hutson, of Sparta township, and Ida, now the wife of J. A. Parker, of Minneapolis, Minn.

On June 17, 1886, Mr. Hutson was united in marriage with Miss Lillian J. Doane, daughter of Timothy and Sarah M. (Rhodes) Doane, of Welsh Valley, Little Falls township. They were natives of New England, descended from old and prominent

families. They came to Wisconsin and were among the early settlers of Bush Prairie, Lafayette township, this county. He was a man of high ideals, prominent in his community and respected and esteemed by all who knew him. His death occurred in 1865, at the age of forty-three years. His widow, mother of Mrs. Hutson, who survives at the age of eighty-eight years, is a charming lady and still retains most excellent health and mental vigor.

Mr. and Mrs. Hutson have an interesting family of four children. They are: Clayton H., born October 23, 1888; Percival W., a student at Beloit College, born November 13, 1891; Margorie E., born December 19, 1898, and Lorene A., born July 6, 1907.

Mr. Hutson received his education in the district school and has devoted his entire life since boyhood to farming, and is known as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of Monroe county, being a man of intelligence and worth in the community in which he resides. He has been treasurer of his town, assessor for twelve years, and also a member of the school board. In religious matters he and his most estimable wife and family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church of Big Creek Valley.

Benjamin F. Hutson, who resides in section six, town of Sparta, was born at Council Bluffs, Ia., January 21, 1877, the son of William and Elizabeth (Fox) Hutson, natives of England and Vermont respectively. They were married in the Big Creek Valley, Sparta township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming for a short time and then removed to Kansas. After a short sojourn in that state, he went to Arkansas, thence removed to Nebraska, and later to Iowa, locating at Council Bluffs, where he was engaged for two years in railroad construction work. At the end of that time he went to South Dakota and homesteaded a quarter section of land, and remained there four years. He then returned to Monroe county and purchased a small farm of eighty acres near the Big Creek Methodist church in Sparta township, and there died eighteen months later, on March 24, 1886, aged fifty-six years. Mrs. Hutson, mother of our subject, survives and is a resident of Leon Valley in this county.

Benjamin F. is the third child of a family of six children. Those besides our subject living are Chauncey A., of Sparta; May, the wife of Reuben Hohn, of Leon township. Those deceased are Carrie and two who died in infancy.

On April 12, 1899, Mr. Hutson was married to Miss Nona McCumber, daughter of William and Martha (Hohn) McCumber,

of Sparta township. They have three children—Dora Mildred, Ivy Merrill and William Henry. Mr. Hutson was reared on a farm in Big Creek Valley, and attended the district schools, after which he was employed at farming in different localities until 1898, when he purchased his present farm of 160 acres, and which, by hard work, thrift and economy, he has brought to a high state of cultivation, erected a new modern residence, re-built the barns, adding a granary, tool shed and hog house, and installed a system of running water, all of which makes him a model country home. Mr. Hutson is a member of the Good Templars Lodge, and in politics he is a Republican.

Fred G. Hutson, successful farmer of section thirty-four, Angelo township, is the son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Wooley) Hutson, natives of England, whence they came to America and first settled in Western New York, and in the early fifties came to Wisconsin and located in Monroe county, where Fred G. was born December 7, 1869. After a few years spent in Leon township, the father purchased a farm in Big Creek Valley, La Crosse county, and there remained until late in life, when he removed to the city of Sparta, where he died at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away at the age of seventy years. They raised a family of seven children, Fred G. being the youngest. Of the others, Thomas and Harriet are deceased; Charles H. lives in Sparta; Robert W. resides in Wells township; Thirza is the wife of D. F. Jones, of Sparta township; and John F., of Sparta.

Fred G. was reared on his father's farm, attending the common schools and assisting with the farm work until he reached the age of twenty-four years, when he started out for himself. He first located in Angelo township, near Sparta, where he remained one year, then went to Minnesota. After a short time he returned to Monroe county and located in Leon township, remaining there two years, and then moved to the town of Wells and spent two more years, and again returned to Leon and spent two years; thence to the town of Angelo, locating on his present farm, eighty acres of which lies in section thirty-four, Angelo, and 157 acres in section three, Wells township, in 1901. In 1905 he erected a new barn and other outbuildings, and in 1907 built a new residence. Since purchasing this farm, Mr. Hutson has, besides carrying on general farming, been actively engaged in making many improvements. A Republican in politics, he is interested in all public matters, and is now (1912) serving his fourth

term as township treasurer. In social matters he is a member of the Beavers.

On January 3, 1895, Mr. Hutson was married to Miss Elizabeth Jones, daughter of J. E. and Carrie (Calkins) Jones, of Leon township. Mrs. Hutson passed away in 1910, at the age of forty years, leaving, besides her husband, a family of eight children, viz: Phillip, Evelyn, George, Carl, Grace, Ruth, Gertrude and Dorothy.

Robert W. Hutson is a native of Monroe county and was born in the town of Angelo on August 9, 1860, the son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Wooley) Hutson. He received his education in the district schools of the neighborhood, and early in life started out for himself, dependent upon his own resources. In 1881 he bought his father's farm and has actively managed it ever since; in 1901 took a position with the Plano Manufacturing Company as traveling salesman for some three years; he then resumed work on the farm, which is located in section three of Wells township, at which he has been successful from the start, and is now considered one of the most progressive and hustling farmers of his township. Besides general farming, Mr. Hutson does quite an extensive dairy business and takes pride in keeping his place well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs, and well supplied with modern equipments for carrying on the work.

Mr. Hutson takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county and works in the Republican ranks in any movement pertaining to the betterment of the community. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

On February 13, 1882, Mr. Hutson was married at Leon, to Miss Georgia E. Rich, and they have had seven children, six of whom are now (1912) living, viz: Lola, born July 31, 1884; Floyd, born March 12, 1886; Bessie, born January 31, 1889; Jessie, born March 4, 1891; Robie, born December 7, 1893, and Georgia, born January 9, 1898. Lizzie is deceased.

Martin Jackson. No history of Monroe county would be complete without a biography of Mr. Martin Jackson, the pioneer grain, seed and stock dealer. He was born in West Toten, Norway, on December 13, 1846. His parents, Jacob and Christinina (Hangrud) Jackson, emigrated to the United States in 1870 and located at Cashton, where the father died at the age of ninety-four years, and the mother passed away at Cashton at the age of eighty-four years.

After arriving in this country Mr. Jackson spent the first three

years at various kinds of employment. He had received a thorough education in Norway and in the meantime developed an unusual executive ability, which aided him greatly after coming to America. He was an ambitious and energetic young man and soon after coming to Sparta he secured a position in a grain elevator, which he held for about ten years, six of which he operated the grain warehouse for the firm of Dorwin, King & Company, and gained a thorough knowledge of the business with a reputation for honorable and upright dealing. He was thrifty and saving and soon accumulated means with which he purchased a warehouse at Cashton. He enlarged and remodeled his buildings and soon established a good trade, and by his honesty and square dealing secured the patronage of that entire section, where he did an annual business running as high as $100,000, his shipments of grain and stock often reaching 100 cars or more. He soon again enlarged his facilities, and for a period of seventeen years he operated three warehouses. In 1897, disposing of his interests at Cashton, he returned to Sparta, where he owned and operated a grain elevator on the C., M. & St. P. R. R., and also took charge of the Northwestern, and at Sparta, in the live stock business, transactions amounted from $120,000 to $150,000 a year for some time, and subsequently leased it to McEchorn & Company, of Wausau, Wis. This elevator was soon thereafter destroyed by fire. Since disposing of his elevator interests Mr. Jackson has been engaged in the seed, stock and wool business at Sparta, which has grown to large proportions, he having the reputation of being the largest dealer in wool in Monroe county and of being the most proficient in the grading of grain of any man in the county.

In 1873 Mr. Jackson married Miss Mary Langard, daughter of Lars O. and Mary Langard, both natives of Norway, and who emigrated to Wisconsin in 1868 and made their home in La Crosse county. Mrs. Jackson died in 1908 at the age of fifty-five years. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, viz.: Olga, who is the wife of C. W. Craig and lives at Hoquaim, Wash.; Claudie is the wife of Robert Merrill, of Sparta; Clara married James A. Uttley and resides in North Dakota; Minnie is the wife of Cleo Evans and lives in Sparta; George and Elystar, who also live in Sparta.

Mr. Jackson is an ardent Republican and from the first has taken an active part in local and state politics. He has been a member of the county board, president of the village of Cashton, and a member of the Cashton school board for several years. He

is a man of fine personal qualities and social standing, courteous in manner, dignified in his bearing, of generous impulses and a lover of good cheer. He is a devoted member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Sparta, and of the Order of the Knights of Pythias. He is one of Monroe country's most reliable and substantial citizens.

Joseph Jankel,* a prosperous farmer, whose 160-acre farm is located in section twenty-one, Lafayette township, is a son of Peter Jankel and was born in Germany, July 3, 1850. While yet a young boy his parents both died and he went to live with his aunt, Mrs. Derbert, with whom he remained until he became sixteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He was first employed in a machine shop, where he remained for a time, and then was engaged in railroad work at Hamburg, Germany, which occupation he followed for two years. When he became of age he entered the German army and served as a private until 1875, when he received his discharge and returned to his former home and resumed employment in the machine shop, where he remained for one year. In the spring of 1877 he sailed from his native land for America, and on June 10 of that year he arrived in Sparta and went to live with his brother William in Ridgeville township. During the next five years he was variously employed, making his home for the time with his brother. He then rented a farm, which he conducted on his own account for seven years; thence he went to Coles valley and lived on a rented farm for four years, and at the expiration of that time he came to Sparta township and worked the King farm for one year, and in November, 1893, purchased his present farm. The land is under a good state of cultivation, is well stocked and improved with a good class of buildings, in the most part put there by Mr. Jankel since he has owned the place. Mr. Jankel began life on this farm with a capital of $300, backed by a determined purpose to succeed, and the first year cleared ten acres, and has since continued to improve the land. He is engaged in general farming and raising of Durham cattle.

In 1880 he was married to Miss Amelia Dresner, daughter of Christ Dresner, of Leon township. To this union have been born three children. Clara A. and Martha E. are now engaged in teaching, and Adolph A. is conducting the John Swartzlow farm in Lafayette township.

Adolph A. Jankel was born in Ridgeville township, January 13, 1888, and is the son of Joseph and Amelia (Dresner) Jankel. He attended the district school and was reared on the home farm.

After leaving home he was employed at farm work for E. T. Doane and Charles L. Flume, and later was employed by David Hemstock in the draying business. He was married February 14, 1912, to Miss Nina Dahl, daughter of Jens and Celia (Madsen) Dahl, of Angelo township, and immediately thereafter took charge of the John Swartzlow farm.

William T. Jefferson, president of the Jefferson Leaf Tobacco Company, another one of Sparta's representative business men and highly respected citizens, is a native of Pittsylvania county, Virginia, and was born April 29, 1862, and is the second of a family of ten children born to William Tazwell and Amelia (Witcher) Jefferson. The others are James T., of Franklin county, Virginia; Mollie is the wife of F. P. Graves, of Franklin county, Virginia; Charles F. and Vincent W., of Danville, Va.; Leslie W. resides at Worth, W. Va.; Christian D. and Ossie A., of Roanoke, Va.; Cabell D. resides on the homestead farm near Sandy Level, Va., and Kelly B. lives at Watertown, Wis. William T. Jefferson, father of our subject, has been a resident of Pittsylvania county for many years, where he has been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits and attained to a position of prominence. Isaiah Jefferson, paternal grandfather of our subject, is also a native of Virginia, as was also Coleman Witcher, the maternal grandfather, who was a representative of one of the oldest and most respected families of Virginia.

William T. was educated in the public schools of his native town and his life up to his twenty-fourth year was spent in farming, a portion of his time being associated with his older brother, James T. In 1886 William went to Danville, Va., and established the firm of W. T. Jefferson & Company, dealers in leaf tobacco. He later followed the same line of business in North and South Carolina, making his headquarters at Danville, Va., and purchasing tobacco at Fair Bluff, N. C., and Mullen, S. C., for some five years, whence he came to Wisconsin, and in 1901 to Sparta, as manager of the American Cigar Company's plant. He continued in that capacity until January, 1906, when he was made state manager of the same company with headquarters at Madison. After a residence of four years at this place he resigned his position and returning to Sparta in November, 1908, organized the Jefferson Leaf Tobacco Company, which is incorporated for $50,000, with W. T. Jefferson, president; D. W. Cheney, vice-president, and H. W. Jefferson, secretary and treasurer. The extensive output of this establishment is distributed throughout the middle west and eastern states. The purchase of this product

is made in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and is sold to large jobbers and manufacturers through William T., who represents the company in the various cities of the two states.

In Bedford county, Virginia, January 17, 1881, Mr. Jefferson was united in marriage with Miss Laura D. Rorer, daughter of J. Q. and Sallie (Hensley) Rorer. They have six children, viz.: Harley W., Mahlon H., attorney at law, Beach, N. D.; Earl A., Rorer, Sallie A., and Thomas Jefferson.

Harley W. Jefferson, secretary and treasurer of the Jefferson Leaf Tobacco Company, was married in June, 1908, to Miss Lelia A. Shannon, daughter of W. O. and Alice Shannon, of Henderson, N. C. They have one son, Harley W. Jefferson, Jr. Mr. Jefferson is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the U. C. T., and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Mrs. Anna Jenkins, the widow of the late David Jenkins, a resident of section eight, Leon township, a daughter of Evan S. and Ann Evans, one of the early settlers of Fish Creek valley, who emigrated to La Crosse county from North Wales in the spring of 1855, was married to Mr. Jenkins December 7, 1877. Mrs. Jenkins was born June 14, 1858, and is the oldest of a family of eight children, all of whom are living.

David Jenkins was one of the highly respected citizens of the Fish Creek valley in Monroe county, and was a native of South Wales. He was the third child in a family of five children born to Evan and Margaret (Williams) Jenkins, also natives of Wales. His birth occurred August 5, 1848, and he came to America with his mother, two brothers and a sister, and joined his father, who had preceded them to Leon township. Mr. Jenkins, the father, was a coal miner from South Wales, but wishing to better his condition sought out the new country in which to make a more desirable home. He homesteaded 160 acres of land where Mrs. Jenkins, the subject of, now resides, he being one of the very early settlers of the valley, where he continued to reside during his active life, making his home with his sons during his later years, and died in La Crosse county in 1898 at the age of eighty years. He was a good citizen and a devoted member of the Congregational church, and in politics a Republican. His wife, the mother of David, died in 1880. There were born to David and Anna Jenkins three children, viz.: Arthur, born April 15, 1878; Emlyn, born March 15, 1883, and Vida Claudia, born June 8, 1887. David Jenkins was one of the successful farmers of Leon township, a man devoted to his home and family, a strict temperance

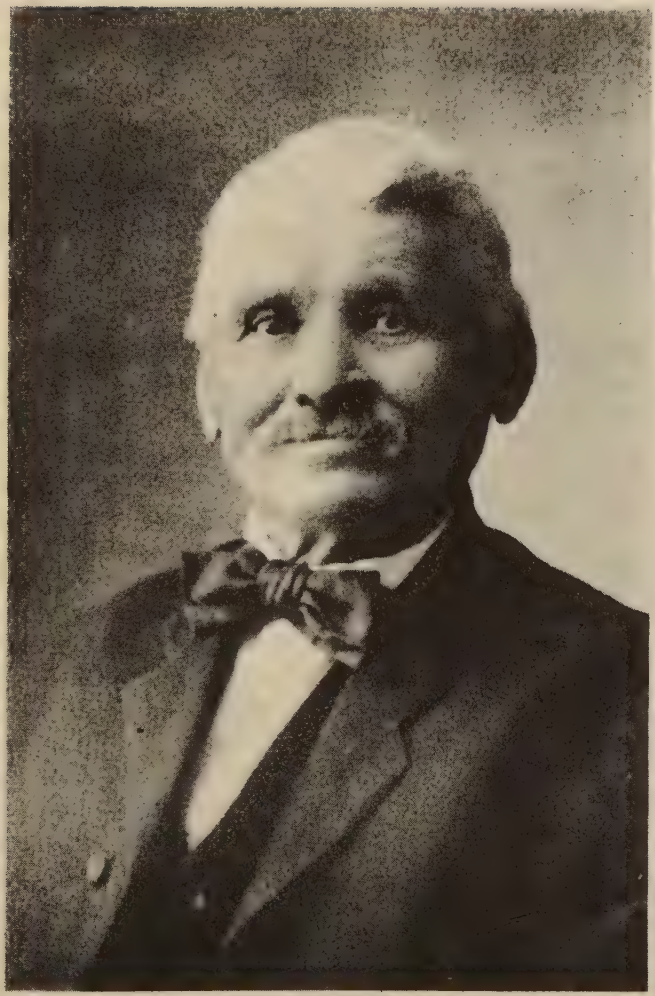
man and a staunch Republican, and with his estimable wife was a member of the Congregational church. He passed away on June 20, 1910, and was buried in Fairview cemetery at Bangor, Wisconsin.

SKETCH OF THE JENKINS FAMILY.

The Jenkins family are of British origin. The name in Welsh is "Cuncyn" or "Sheukin." They originated in South Wales and dwelt there for many generations. Very few of this name are found in North Wales. They are quite numerous in Glamorgan county. They were freeholders of land until mining was developed about one hundred years ago; then they followed mining, iron and tin workers, and the clan have scattered to every part of the globe. They have taken part with other family clans in the advancement of freedom, education and religion. Wales has advanced more in comparison than any state in Europe. Education in different grades is of the best. It furnishes more preachers and divines than any part of the United Kingdom. The Bible and the hymn book is the encyclopedia and songster of the Welshman for a long period. The Welsh language is spoken by hundreds of thousands through the principality. It is a poetical and musical language; it has variety of sound almost endless; it has a stanza to the spider composed of vowels alone. No other language can boast of such a feat; the people have clung to the language for thousands of years with wonderful tenacity, while cousins, the Scotch and Irish, have neglected their vernacular to an alarming extent. The Scotch clung to the musical bagpipe while the Welsh and Irish have taken to the harp. This three clans are holding a triennial festival they call the sitting, or "Eistedfod," where they have competition in essays, poetry, songs, music, instrumental, dancing, art, etc., in every branch of learning and literature. The foremost kelt of the clans today are leaders in every branch of learning and constitute noblemen in the advanced line in civilization of mankind in every part of the globe.

PROGRESS OF FIFTY-FOUR YEARS.

When father and I came to America in 1858 we came to a comparatively wild and desolate country. The Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad was then built to Tomah. Farmers who lived there then had rude small log huts. Their only market was La Crosse. Sparta was a small place then. There were only a few horses in the La Crosse valley; people used oxen. A buggy or cutter, and



THOMAS JENKINS

even a bobsled was a rare article. The long sleigh was in vogue and some used these in summer until they procured wagons. To cut grass and grain they used scythe and cradle and bound by hand. The virgin soil was very productive; everything was very cheap, wheat 33 cents per bushel, pork 2 cents per pound, and good cows $25. Horses were very dear, a good team costing $400 or $500; hired men $1 per day; people very contented and wonderfully accommodating. The first settlers were strong men and women of all nationalities. If a man climbed on top of the bluffs he could see only timber, timber. Today field, houses, barns, cattle, horses, school houses and healthy and rugged looking children. Monroe county, thou hast changed wonderfully; thou art big and almost square, so big I guess as Milwaukee, Kenosha and Racine counties. Thou art a baby yet in numbers of population, but there is great progress within thy bounds. La Crosse valley, the great rail highway to the wonderful west, is romantic and beautiful with young forest trees on both sides of the valley. Sparta, the most American city of Wisconsin, is located in a fertile and picturesque spot within five miles of the greatest soldier drilling camp in the United States. There are as good farms in this valley, as you can see in any part of the United States, and a glorious and progressive future awaits the coming generations.

Thomas Jenkins, one of the intelligent farmers of Leon township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born in Wales, February 16, 1840. He emigrated to America and settled in Monroe county in 1858, and is a loyal citizen of the country of his adoption. Evan Jenkins, his father, was born in Wales in 1813, a son of Thomas and Mary Morgan Jenkins, also natives of Wales. He was reared in his own country and during his youth was engaged in agricultural pursuits and mining. In 1858 he determined to try his fortune in the new world, and accordingly crossed the sea to America. He came directly to Wisconsin and settled in Monroe county, where he made his home until his death, which occurred in November, 1898. He was one of the pioneers of this section and bravely bore his part in developing the resources of the country. He was married in his native land at the age of twenty-seven years to Margaret Williams, who was born in Wales. Of this union five children were born: Thomas, the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, the wife of W. W. Williams, of Scranton, Pa.; David, who lived on part of the old homestead, died in June, 1910; Evan, who lives on a farm near Bangor, and Llewellyn, who lived on part of the old homestead, died in March, 1904. The

mother of these children died April 21, 1879, at the age of sixty-six years. She was a consistent member of the Congregational church. Mr. Jenkins is a member of the church; politically affiliates with the Republican and Prohibition parties. He is a man of integrity and honorable in all his dealings, and enjoys the highest respect of the community.

Thomas, the oldest of the family, remained with his father on the home farm until he purchased a farm of W. S. Jones in 1874. He received his education in the common schools and was fairly trained in all the details of agriculture. He now owns 379 acres in two farms and good buildings in Pleasant valley. The writer has been married twice, first to Mary Lloyd, daughter of John and Margaret Lloyd. Three children were born to them, Milton, Annie and Margaret. The mother of these children died in 1881, Milton died in 1898, and Annie and Margaret in 1906. Married for the second time in 1888 to Laura Rathbun, daughter of Hallet and Catherine (Cramer) Rathbun, at Cashton, Wis. The latter is now deceased. Six children are the result of this union: Hallet Rathbun, died in infancy; Gathorn Meredith, Lyel Newton, Melita Lucinda, Thomas Hallet, Glen Llewellyn. Deeming the temperance movement the greatest question of the day, the writer has given his hearty support and influence to temperance in every form; has served twice as juror and twice on the town board. I am glad that I did not load myself with bad habits in my youth, such as drinking, using tobacco, swearing, playing cards, dancing and mastered superstition and unreliable legends. I am a lover of books and am standing on a broad platform in my views and thinking that there are good people in all parties in every country. I admire Wisconsin with its equity and advancement, and its great university. Our free schools will drive darkness, middle age dogmas and superstition out of the land. I leave my blessings to my descendants and kindest wishes to the readers of the history of Monroe county, Wisconsin.

Respectfully, THOMAS JENKINS.

Zeno Kent Jewett, whose death occurred at Sparta, September 12, 1903, was a leader among the horticulturists of Wisconsin, and an illustrious example of that type of enterprising, intelligent and resourceful business men who have given to Monroe county the advanced station it holds among the progressive counties of this state. He was a native of Aurora, Portage county, Ohio, born in September, 1837. His father, Christopher Jewett, was a native of New Hampshire and was descended from one of the

earliest and most respected New England families. He was one of seven brothers who have numerous descendants throughout the country.

The paternal grandfather, James Jewett, emigrated to Ohio when his son Christopher was a youth, and was among the early pioneers of Portage county. The mother of Zeno Kent Jewett, whose maiden name was Arabella Kent, was also a pioneer of that part of Ohio, having emigrated from Connecticut. Christopher Jewett, accompanied by his family, went to Illinois in 1841 and settled in Chicago, which was at that time a small village, remaining there but one year, when he removed to McHenry county. After a residence of a few years at this place, the family again moved, going at that time to Lake county, Illinois, where the father died in 1851. His wife, mother of our subject, survived him many years, spending the latter part of her life with her son, Zeno, at Sparta. Christopher and Arabella (Kent) Jewett were the parents of three children, Zeno K. being the eldest. The late Mrs. Miriam Morehouse, a long time resident of Sana Andro, Cal., was the second in order of birth and lived to the age of sixty-six years, her death occurring in 1908; the youngest and only surviving member of the family, A. H. Jewett, is a resident of White Salmon, Wash.

Zeno K. Jewett was reared and spent his early youth in Illinois. In the fall of 1865 he came to Monroe county and purchased a farm in LaFayette township. Returning to Lake county, Illinois, he married, in 1866, Miss A. Eliza Judd, daughter of Artemus and Hannah (Halliday) Judd, natives of New York state and Canada respectively. Artemus Judd accompanied his parents to Canada when twelve years of age, and here resided until early manhood, whence he came to Wisconsin, where Mrs. Jewett was born. The family later removed to Iowa, where he died in 1870. His widow survived until 1882, when she too passed away. Mrs. Jewett has four brothers living, viz.: Eli E. Judd, of Antioch, Ill.; Capt. Samuel H. Judd, of Tacoma, Wash.; Artemus W. Judd resides in Illinois, and F. B. Judd lives in Iowa. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jewett, viz.: Miriam Irene, Art Judd, Maude Ione, all of whom reside at Sparta, and Bella, who is deceased.

Art Judd Jewett was united in marriage with Miss Catherine McMillen, daughter of C. W. and Mary K. McMillen, of Sparta, August 11, 1890. They have one son, Zeno Kent Jewett, who married Minnie D. King, daughter of John A. King, of Tomah, September 17, 1909, and they have one son, John Artemus Jewett.

Mr. Zeno K. Jewett returned to Monroe county with his young wife in the spring of 1866, and moved onto the farm that he had purchased the fall previous, which he improved with a good residence and outbuildings, and carried on general farming until 1868, at which time he was joined by his brother, A. H. Jewett, and together they continued to operate the farm successfully until 1873, when Mr. Zeno K. Jewett purchased the interest of his brother and afterward conducted the farm alone, starting, in the meantime, a nursery and farm within the city limits of Sparta. Gradually disposing of all his holdings in LaFayette township, he devoted himself entirely to his Sparta interests and conducted a profitable and growing business. For years he kept a very complete nursery, making a specialty of the finest evergreens. He was also successfully engaged in the raising of small fruits and was for many years known as one of the most prosperous nurserymen and horticulturists. In 1898 he established the Jewett greenhouses, which were also an acquisition to his already fine culture, and which are still most ably and successfully conducted under the management of his daughter, Miss Miriam Irene Jewett, while the farm and nursery is being carried on by his son, A. J. Jewett.

Mr. Jewett had always taken an active interest in public affairs and was always ready to lend his moral influence and financial aid to any worthy enterprise tending to the betterment of his community. He never sought political preferment nor desired public office, although he was alderman from the First Ward and chairman of the board at the time the waterworks system was inaugurated. He was a Republican in politics and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. A man of jovial disposition, he was recognized as one of Sparta's most influential citizens and highly esteemed by all.

During his lifetime, Mr. Jewett and his estimable wife were extensive travelers and visited the Pacific coast and other important points of the Republic, securing many mementoes from the interesting points visited. Mrs. Jewett relates many of the vivid scenes and incidents connected with the early days when they first settled in La Fayette township, at which time the Indians came and camped on their farm, the chief and others of their tribe often seeking a night's lodging at their home. She also tells of attending the war dances, which at times continued for three days and nights. It is such stirring incidents as she is able to relate that helped to make up the history of pioneer days in Monroe county.

George A. Johnson,* who resides on section twenty-two, Greenfield township, is a native of Monroe county, having been born on the homestead farm adjoining the one of 320 acres where he now resides, and which is one of the well cultivated and productive farms of the county. He was born on June 14, 1884, to Albert and Sarah (Tarr) Johnson, who were natives of New England, and descended from an old and prominent family. The Tarr family were among the first settlers of Greenfield township, together with the Sawyers and others, sketches of whom appear elsewhere in this work.

Albert Johnson is a son of Calvin Johnson, who came to Monroe county in an early day and settled in section twenty-two, Greenfield township, where he spent many years of his active life. He moved to Riverside, Cal., where he passed away at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, grandmother of our subject, also died there. The parents of our subject are still residents of Greenfield and classed among the well-to-do and highly respected citizens of that town. They have had a family of nine children, eight of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Herbert, deceased; William resides in California; Ralph lives in Greenfield township; Harry in Iowa; Fred is a civil engineer and is located in the Philippine Islands; George A., our subject, Jesse and David are residents of Greenfield township, and Charles lives on the homestead farm.

George A. was reared on the farm, where he remained a greater part of the time until he reached the age of twenty-two; he attended the district schools and assisted in the farm work. He started on his own resources on a rented farm, which he subsequently purchased in 1910, and where he now resides. He has his farm under a high state of cultivation and well improved with a good residence and outbuildings, and it ranks among the best farms of the township, while the owner occupies a prominent place among the citizens and is known as a thorough and up-to-date farmer.

He was married, January 12, 1910, to Miss Minnie Prescott, daughter of A. G. and Sarah (Hackett) Prescott, prominent citizens of Tunnell City.

John L. Johnson, a prominent resident of LaGrange township, was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, July 2, 1855, the son of Rev. A. J. and Clarissa Almeda (Rouse) Johnson, natives of Pennsylvania, where they married and came to Sauk county, thence to Monroe county; the father was a traveling preacher, in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in 1862, when our subject

was seven years of age, began farming. He continued in this occupation, together with his ministerial work, until his death, which occurred in Mosinee, Wis., in 1889, at the age of sixty-nine years. He was the father of eight children, viz.: Elson W., of Augusta, Wis.; Harriet, wife of Samuel Hinkley, of Mosinee, Wis.; John L., our subject; Elmar, deceased; Sarah Almeda, wife of Daniel Roberts, of Milwaukee; Ida May, wife of William Upton, of Minneapolis; Dr. H. B. Johnson, of Tomah, and Vance, of Beloit.

John L. attended the common schools and has been on the farm since he was seven years of age. Early in life he was employed for three years as overseer of a cranberry marsh at Raymour, where he continued for some time after the expiration of his three-year contract. In 1909 he purchased the Alvin Day farm in LaGrange township, where he now resides, engaged in general farming. In 1879 he was married to Miss Phoebe Getman, daughter of Nicholas and Jane Getman, of Monroe county. One son, Ernest H., was born to this union. Mrs. Johnson died in 1896 at the age of forty-two years and he married for his second wife Mrs. Fidelia Featherly, of Monroe county, in 1899.

Julius P. Johnson,* prosperous farmer in Sparta township, is a native of Denmark and was born January 10, 1870. He is a son of Hans Henry and Marie Johnson, also natives of Denmark. Hans H., the father of our subject, was the son of Jens and Kate Johnson, who spent their early life in Denmark, where he died at the age of fifty-six years. His wife, Kate, was left with a family of five children and later came to the United States and located at Tomah, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where she died in 1890. The children—three of whom are now living—are: Peter, of Tomah; Nels, of Valley Junction; Sina, the wife of Christ Hansen, of Valley Junction; Kate and Mina, who are now deceased.

Our subject was raised on the home farm in Denmark, consisting of eight acres, every spot of which was like a garden. Julius attended the public schools until the age of fourteen. Beside the farm his father was engaged in shoe making, and, upon the completion of his schooling, Julius was engaged in the shoe business and farming until his seventeenth year, then for one year he traveled through Denmark, and in the spring of 1889 he came to America. Coming direct to Wisconsin, he first settled at Bangor, La Crosse county, where he was employed as a farm hand for three years. He then rented a farm near that place and engaged in farming on his own account, continuing to reside here

for eight years, and in 1901 came to Sparta township, Monroe county, where he purchased a farm of 120 acres from L. R. Chamberlain in section two, to which he has since added fifteen acres. Under Mr. Johnson's management the place has been greatly improved, the residence has been remodeled and made into a modern and up-to-date home, with fine outbuildings consisting of barns, to which he added a large new silo. He is engaged extensively in stock raising and dairying, and has a fine herd of full-blooded Holstein cattle.

On November 22, 1899, he was united in marriage with Miss Clara Rhyme, daughter of Henry and Wilhelmina Rhyme, of Farmington township, La Crosse county. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have an interesting family of three children, as follows: Ethel Elizabeth, born November 19, 1901; Fay Margaret, born January 22, 1904, and Julius Edward, born February 24, 1908. Mr. Johnson is one of the enterprising men of his town, and now serving as chairman to the town board.

Mr. Johnson is the third child in order of birth of a family of nine children, eight of whom are now living: Jens, of Denmark; Charles W., of North Dakota; our subject; Christ, of Bangor, Wis.; Otto, of South Dakota; Augusta, wife of John Evans, of Bangor; Henry and Julia, who live in Denmark, and Hansen, who is deceased.

Lewis C. Johnson. In perpetuating in words more enduring than monuments of stone, the memory of men of prominence whose active and valuable lives were spent in Monroe county, the pages of this volume would be incomplete were mention not made of the honored pioneer whose name is here recorded.

Esau Johnson, father of our subject, was a native of South Carolina; he came west to Wisconsin, and was the first white man to settle in Monroe county. In 1846, according to government reports, he was a squatter on the northwest quarter of section twenty-four, township fifteen, range two west, which, after the establishment of Monroe county, was in Sheldon township. He was energetic and thrifty, a man of good judgment, kind-hearted and generous. His death occurred in 1888, honored and respected by all who knew him. The death of the mother occurred in 1876.

Lewis C. Johnson was born in the town of Sheldon, Monroe county, on June 2, 1846, whose portrait adorns the walls of the county clerk's office in the court house at Sparta, has the honor of being the first white child born in this county. He lived at home with his parents until he was sixteen years of age, and, being so early thrown upon his own resources, commenced his

career as a common laborer, working for the meagre salary of 75 cents per day; yet, in the face of these difficulties, by his hard work and economy, he finally acquired a farm in his own right, which he afterward developed into one of the model homes of the county, while for many years he has witnessed the growth and taken an active part in the development of his community and the transforming of Monroe county into its present condition among the banner counties of the state. He is a man of recognized ability and influence, and has been generally successful in whatever branch of business he has undertaken, showing himself capable and trustworthy. He now resides with his family in a comfortable residence at Oil City, and is one of the oldest settlers now living in the county. On February 21, 1865, he enlisted in Company K, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served seven months and six days, receiving his discharge September 27, 1865. He is a Republican in politics and takes an active part in all matters of public interest.

He was married in the town of Sheldon in 1867, to Miss Olive Floyd, and they have had six children, four of whom are now living, viz.: Luella, Eva E., Adelbert M. and Henry W. Johnson. Those deceased are Jane and Huldah.

David F. Jones, a progressive farmer of Sparta township, is a native of the Keystone state, born at Danville, May 3, 1865, the son of John F. and Mary (Williams) Jones, both of whom were born in Wales. In 1851 the father emigrated to America and located in Pennsylvania, where he was employed in the coal mines until 1866. He then removed with his family to Wisconsin and settled on a farm which he purchased, consisting of sixty-five acres near Watertown, in Jefferson county. After a residence there of four years, they removed to La Crosse county, where their lives were spent; the father died in 1891 and the death of the mother occurred in 1884. They were the parents of seven children, six of whom are now living, viz.: John, Sarah, William, David F., Mary, now the wife of George Welsh, and Elizabeth.

David F. Jones received his education in the common schools of La Crosse county, and remained at home with his parents until he was twenty-three years old. In 1895 he came to Monroe county and for sixteen years resided in the city of Sparta, where he conducted a lucrative dray and coal business. He moved onto his present farm in section twenty-two, Sparta township, where he is successfully engaged in general farming. Mr. Jones is one of the influential and public-spirited men of his township and enjoys the respect of all who know him. He is a Republican in political

sentiment and fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the F. R. A.

Mr. Jones has been twice married; his first matrimonial venture was on January 15, 1890, with Miss Sadie Hemstock, daughter of William and Elizabeth Hemstock, of Sparta. By this union three children were born, viz.: Earl F., born February 16, 1891, is now attending the agricultural department of the State University at Madison; Mildred S., born January 13, 1893, and Ethel E., born April 17, 1896. Mrs. Jones passed away in 1903, and he married for his second wife Miss Theiza Hutson, daughter of Thomas and Mary Hutson.

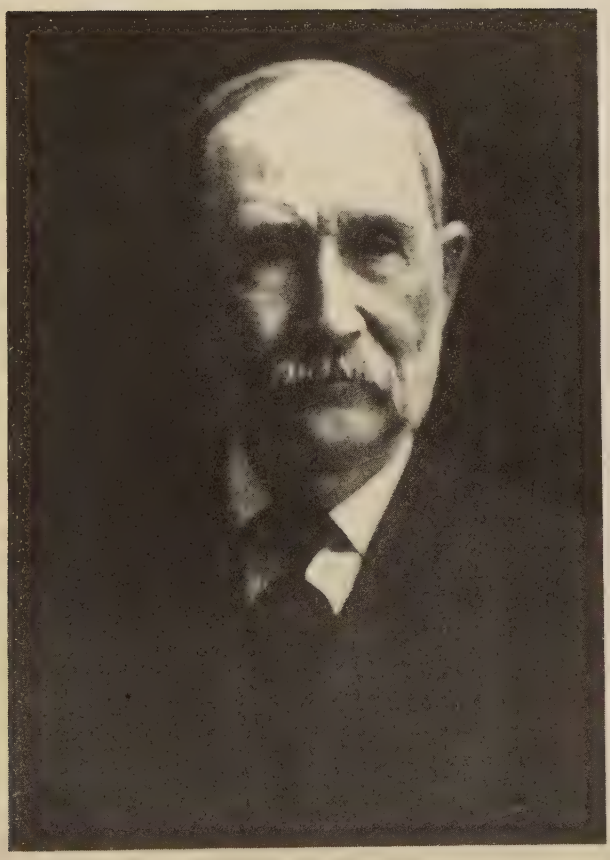
John L. Jones is one of the sterling men and successful farmers of Leon township. He was born near Rockland, in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, on January 4, 1856. His parents were John W. and Mary (Jones) Jones. The father, who was born in England, emigrated to Canada in the early fifties, where he remained three years, then moved to Wisconsin and located in the Fish Creek Valley, La Crosse county, on a farm, which was his home for about eighteen years; then moved to the town of Portland and purchased 680 acres of land. Earlier in his life he had learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, and, after locating in the Fish Creek Valley in 1854, he built the first saw mill on Robinson's creek. He also assisted in building the railroad depot at Bangor, and built the first grist mill at this place; he followed the carpenter's trade until 1858, after which he made farming his chief occupation. During the Civil War he engaged in buying substitutes for drafted men, which business often necessitated his walking to La Crosse and back the same day, a distance of twenty-five miles. He was prominent in the affairs of his community and held several local offices in the towns of Bangor and Portland, and during the fifteen years he was justice of the peace he was always an advocate of arbitration in disputes of all causes that came before him. He was an ardent prohibitionist and a firm believer in the cause of temperance. From a poor man and a small beginning, he became a man of means and influence in his town and county. Three years prior to his death, which occurred in 1900, he moved to the city of Sparta. Mrs. Jones, mother of our subject, survives at the age of eighty years, and is the only person living of the early pioneers in the Big Fish Creek Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Jones were the parents of six sons and two daughters, seven of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: W. A. Jones, a prominent banker of Sparta; Mary; Evan M., a druggist at Clark, S. D.; David S., druggist at Watertown, S. D.; Thomas R., a

farmer of Portland township; Benjamin; Edwin resides in Bismarck, N. D., engaged in the real estate and insurance business, and John L., our subject. Sarah is deceased.

John L. Jones acquired his education in the common schools of his home town and at the Cleveland, Ohio, high school. After completing his education, he taught school four years in Monroe county and for two years in La Crosse county. On July 5, 1882, he moved with his sister to Pleasant Valley and purchased 220 acres of land three miles southeast of Leon, where he has since resided, engaged in general farming and stock raising. He deals extensively in blooded short-horned cattle and Poland-China hogs. His place is under a good state of cultivation and well improved with a substantial residence, barns, tool shed and granary, all of which have been erected since Mr. Jones purchased the farm. He is a progressive and high-minded gentleman and takes an active interest in the affairs of his town. For five years he held the position as manager of the Leon Valley Creamery Association, and in politics he is a progressive Republican.

On February 27, 1885, he was married to Miss Mary Harr, daughter of John Harr, an old and prominent pioneer of Big Creek Valley. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, viz.: Sidney D., a student in the medical department of the Valparaiso University; Vivian, Gladys and Myrtle. Vivian and Myrtle are teachers; Hazel and Isabelle are attending the Sparta high school, and Florence resides at home.

John R. Jones, member of the General Assembly of Wisconsin from the county of Monroe, was born at Pittsburg, Pa., in 1850, the only son of John R. and Anna (Davis) Jones, both natives of Wales. The father came to the United States in 1840 and located at Pittsburg, where he was employed in the iron and steel mills for sixteen years. In 1856 the family came to Wisconsin, taking passage by boat from Pittsburg. They went down the Ohio river to Cairo, thence up the Mississippi to La Crosse, then overland to the Fish Creek valley in Monroe county, where the father purchased 120 acres of land. Previous to this, however, the father, with a friend, had visited this section on a prospecting tour, at that time making the journey from Milwaukee on foot. On the arrival of the family, May 6, 1856, they set to work to improve, subdue and cultivate the wild land. Their first residence was a board structure 12x16 feet. The lumber was hauled from Ontario by ox teams, a distance of twenty odd miles, over hills and creeks which had no bridges. At this time the streams were abundant with fish and the wild game roamed



HON. JOHN R. JONES

over the hills and valleys, which contributed largely to the sturdy pioneers' menu. From a meager beginning and without the advantages of wealth conferred upon him, having lost $5,000 of hard earned money by the collapse of a bank in a financial panic of the late forties and early fifties, Mr. Jones, Sr., fought manfully the battles of pioneer life and by hard work, thrift and economy, converted his wild land in the valley to a good farm and pleasant home. He was one of Monroe county's most exemplary citizens, and by careful, judicious management made life a success and owned at the time of his death, which occurred April 21, 1903, 320 acres of land in the Fish Creek valley. His early education was limited, but he was a constant reader and a close observer of events, and in his mature years was known as a well-read and thoroughly posted man, and he was withal a man of generous impulses, given to acts of charity and kindness to those in need. Having but a small family of his own his heart went out to many orphan children who had no home or funds, and to this class he gave liberal succor. During his lifetime he gave a home to some four or five boys, raised and educated them until they arrived at the age of manhood. All of them turned out to be honorable and respected citizens. Mr. Jones was one of the founders of the Welsh Presbyterian church, whose first meetings were held in the little log school house one-half mile from his residence. In 1876 a new frame church edifice was erected, and still a little later a large building was constructed on the same site, to all of which Mr. Jones contributed liberally of his means. This latter building was destroyed by fire in 1910, and during the year 1911 another building was erected, where our subject and his family now worship.

In all matters of public interest, whether of county, state or national, Mr. Jones took a commendable interest, and his home was at all times open for the gathering of his friends, who discussed all the live issues of the day. In early life he was a Whig, but upon the formation of the Republican party he became one of its most ardent supporters. He was born at Cardigan Shire, in South Wales, in the year 1816, and died at the age of eighty-seven. His wife, mother of our subject, was highly respected and beloved for her many womanly virtues and noble Christian character. She was born at Cardigan Shire, South Wales, in 1806, and died at her home on January 13, 1897, at the age of ninety-one.

John R. Jones, the subject of this sketch, attended the district schools of his neighborhood until he was sixteen years of age

and then took a course of instruction at West Salem Academy, commercial college and at the Sparta high school. He afterwards taught school for four years in La Crosse and Monroe counties. Later he spent two years and a half as a student in the law office of Bleekman & Bloomingdale, at Sparta, but overexertion so impaired his eyesight that he was compelled to abandon law and he then returned to the farm. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party and is active in its councils. He has been called upon to fill many positions of trust. He has served as treasurer of his town, has been supervisor for six years, and for eleven terms a member of the county board, two terms of which he has been chairman. In 1906 he was elected to the general assembly, and was re-elected in 1908, and again in 1910. He has served on the committees of agriculture, state department, engrossed bills, and as chairman of charitable and penal institutions, also as chairman of highways. He was chairman of the joint committee of the assembly and senate to investigate the highways of the state, and is known as the father of the present efficient highway system of the state. He is a progressive Republican and ardent advocate of reform, and believes in a pure and unsullied government.

On May 25, 1882, Mr. Jones was married to Miss Margaret James, daughter of Mr. D. J. James and Mary (Jenkins) James, of La Crosse county, one of the most prosperous and highly esteemed citizens thereof. To this union have been born four children: David S., Stephen R., John R. and Wilford M. Mrs. Jones possesses all the amiable traits common to the Welsh people. She is kind, generous and hospitable. Her parents came from Wales in an early day and also settled in the Fish Creek valley in 1852. They had a family of twelve children, only two of whom are now living, Mrs. Jones being the youngest. Mrs. Jones was born at Fish Creek, November 15, 1856. Her father was born in 1813 and died on June 1, 1895. Her mother was born March 9, 1812, and died February 15, 1879. They were both born in Glamorgan Shire, Wales.

Mr. Jones owns 406 acres of land in the Fish Creek valley, which is highly improved with a substantial and modern residence and outbuildings, located on the side of the great ridge, which is a beautiful spot and presents to the eye a landscape scene admired and not to be forgotten by all who see it.

Mervin E. Jones, deceased, was born in Liverpool, England, February 22, 1841, and died in La Grange township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, April 3, 1897. When ten years of age he

came with his parents to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he lived until 1864, when he moved to Monroe county. In 1866 he was united in marriage to Miss Alice S. Waterman, daughter of Othaniel and Mary (Gambia) Waterman, natives of Oneida county, New York. Mrs. Jones was born near Utica, N. Y., December 17, 1842. Her parents, after leaving New York, went first to Indiana, thence to Fox Lake, Dodge county, Wisconsin, and in 1864 they moved to La Grange township, Monroe county, where with the exception of a few years spent in Minnesota they resided during the remaining years of their life. He was a progressive, public spirited citizen, and at the time of his death at the age of sixty-three years, had many warm friends. His widow survived until February 4, 1899, when she passed away at the age of eighty-two, beloved and esteemed by all who knew her. They had six children, Mrs. Jones being the eldest daughter. Of the others Frederick C. lives at Waterloo, Ind.; Charles and Mary Ellen are deceased, and two who died in infancy.

The parents of Mervin E. Jones were Robert and Mary Ann Jones. He was born in Wales and she in England. They came to Dodge county, Wisconsin, and there died. Mervin E. had one sister, Mary, deceased, and four brothers, viz.: Andrew, Thomas and Manderville, residents of Minnesota; Aniron, who is also deceased. The children born to Mervin E. Jones and Alice S. Waterman Jones are Mary Elizabeth, wife of John McCurdy, of Tomah township; Alice S.; Genevieve, formerly the wife of Harvey Cook, of California, died in June, 1911; Maud is deceased; Charles Mervin, of Puyallup, Wash.; Frederick E., La Grange township; Robert O., of Valley Junction; Happy L., married Louis Curabo and resides in Pennsylvania; Edward resides at Tomah; Nellie E. is the wife of Ray McGuinniss, Valley Junction; Gladstone of Ontario; Sydney P., Valley Junction, and Margaret R. married Charles Houck, who lives at Valley Junction.

Mr. Jones was a man well thought of in his town and popular alike with the citizens of the surrounding towns. He was for nine years continuously employed by Gleason & Squier, the Goodyear company, as head sawyer at the water mill and other places, and finally met with an accident which terminated in his death. He was a kind neighbor, loyal citizen and esteemed by all who knew him. On July 3, 1903, the home of Mrs. Jones was visited by a cyclone, which demolished her residence, tore up trees and destroyed other buildings. Neighbors who chanced to drop in as the storm approached fled to the cellar and saved their lives from the cyclone.

Thomas R. Jones, another thrifty farmer of Portland township, was born at Rockland, La Crosse county, Wisconsin, January 20, 1870, son of John W. and Mary (Jones) Jones, both natives of South Wales. The father was born in 1828 and the mother in 1832. John Jones followed farming in La Crosse county until 1871, when he came to Monroe county and bought land in section sixteen, Portland township, which he improved and added to until at the time of his death he owned 720 acres. There were seven children in his family, as follows: John L., of Leon township; William A. and Mary, of Sparta; Evan M. lives at Clark, S. D.; David F. resides at Watertown, S. D.; Thomas R., the subject of this sketch, and Edwin, of Bismarck, N. D. John Jones, father of Thomas R., was one of Monroe county's most highly respected and progressive citizens, and took great interest in public matters, and any enterprise which he thought was for the interest and betterment of his community received his endorsement and hearty support. While living in La Crosse county he served as assessor, and after moving to Portland township he served as town clerk for a number of terms, and for many years was justice of the peace. His death occurred in December, 1900. His widow, mother of our subject, is still living and resides in Sparta.

Thomas R. Jones was reared on his father's farm and attended the district schools and lived with his parents until they moved to Sparta in 1899, when he purchased from his father the home farm, where he still lives. On March 1, 1899, he was married to Miss Emma Breitenfield, who was born in Portland township, August 28, 1877, the daughter of William and Anna (Oswald) Breitenfield, natives of Germany and Switzerland, respectively. The father was born near Bremen, Germany, September 23, 1848, and the mother was born in Switzerland on January 3, 1849. They were married in Leon township, Monroe county, December 3, 1872, and raised a family of nine children, eight of whom are now (1912) living. They are: Albert, who lives at La Crosse; Mrs. Albert Erickson, of Portland township; Mrs. Thomas R. Jones, wife of our subject; Mrs. Adolph Everson lives in La Crosse; Herman resides in Portland township; Mrs. Carl Moede, of Cashton, Monroe county; Otto and Theodore, of Portland township. The mother of this family, a lady of fine mental attainments, a good wife and mother, passed away on December 3, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have one daughter, Mabel A., born February 7, 1900.

Mr. Jones' farm of 160 acres in section sixteen, Portland town-

ship, is highly improved by cultivation and a fine residence, barns and other outbuildings, besides being equipped with many labor-saving devices, and in addition to general farming he is interested in the Citizens' State Bank of Sparta. He is serving his fourth term as chairman of the town board, and for a number of years has been a justice of the peace. In politics he is affiliated with the Republican party, and in religious matters both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Portland township.

George W. Kelk, present chairman of the Oakdale town board and a prominent farmer of this township, was born here on June 7, 1883. He is the third child of a family of fourteen children, ten of whom are now (1912) living, born to Charles and Matilda (Halvorson) Kelk, natives of New York and Wisconsin, respectively.

Charles Kelk moved with his parents from New York state to New Lisbon, Monroe county, Wisconsin, some time during the seventies, where they lived for about ten years, and then moved to Oakdale township and made their permanent home. The father died in 1906. The mother is still living at the age of eighty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelk also live in Oakdale and are considered among the leading farmers and citizens of that township.

George lived at home until his twentieth year, attending the district schools of his neighborhood until he was sixteen. He was a thrifty and energetic young man and decided that upon reaching his majority he was both able and capable of making his own way in the world, and accordingly started out with a portable saw mill, which he operated with success and followed that business for about five years. On October 20, 1909, he wedded Miss Elizabeth Giesler, daughter of Robert and Matilda Giesler, in Monroe county. Mrs. Kelk's ancestors on her father's side came from Germany to Wisconsin state in an early day, where her father was born. Her mother was a native of New York. They had a family of six children, all of whom are living.

Mr. Kelk is a young man of fine personality, strictly up-to-date with his methods of farming, and has one of the best dairies in his section, which yields a regular income. He keeps posted on all public matters and takes a keen interest in the affairs of the Republican party.

Ransom Kenyon,* of Sparta township, is one of the well-known early settlers of Monroe county. He dates his birth in the town of Frabius, Onondago county, New York, January 30, 1832. His

father, Enoch J. Kenyon, was also born in central New York, as was his mother, whose maiden name was Miss Lucy Reed, and their married life was spent in the Empire state. The subject of this sketch was the eldest in a family of six children, and is the only surviving member. Farm duties early claimed his attention to such an extent that his school advantages were limited. At the age of twenty-four he left his native heath and came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he pre-empted a forty-acre tract in Leon township, and proceeded to clear the timber and establish a home in the new country. It was here that he first built a log house and stable, and where he enjoyed the varied experiences of the pioneer in the then dense wilderness, surrounded by deer, wolves and other wild game, and where the Indian was not an unfrequent visitor. In 1855, three years after he had established himself in the Cooley, he bought his present farm of James Richardson and removed to this place, which has since been his home, carrying on both the farm in Leon and the one where he lives.

In 1858 Mr. Kenyon was united in marriage with Miss Anna Caroline Palmer, daughter of Kernetus and Harriet Palmer, of Fabius, Onondago county, New York. Mrs. Kenyon was born in Cortland county, New York, in 1839, and was a faithful helpmeet to her husband in the struggles of pioneer life. A few years after her marriage her father came to La Crosse county, where he was employed for a time. Her mother continued to reside in New York state until 1888, when she came to Wisconsin, making her home with her daughter until her death in 1898, at the age of eighty-two years. Mrs. Kenyon is the third child in a family of five children, as follows: Harriet, of Syracuse, N. Y.; Amelia C., wife of Homer D. Call. Those deceased are William O. and Harriet, who died while young. Mrs. Kenyon's paternal grandfather was Titus Palmer, who came from Connecticut to Cattaraugus county, New York, thence to Onondago county, where he engaged in farming, and there died. Her maternal grandmother was Arvilla Wheat, who came from Connecticut to New York state on horseback at the age of sixteen years to join her parents, who had preceded her to Courtland county, being among the pioneers of that locality. Miss Wheat married Job Whitmarsh when seventeen years old and they raised a family of fifteen children, and he was an extensive farmer and cattle drover of that day and frequently took large herds of cattle overland on foot to New York city. Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon have two children, Willis O., on the home farm, and Alice A., wife of C. E. Miller, of Viroqua, Wis. In politics Mr. Kenyon has been a life long Democrat.

Webster Kenyon,* who was one of the public spirited and substantial citizens of Tomah, Wis., attained to success by patient and persistent efforts in the line of an honest calling and held the confidence and esteem of all who knew him by reason of the honorable, upright and manly character of his dealings. He was born November 18, 1830, at Hartland, Niagara county, New York, a son of Daniel and Elma Kenyon, both natives of that state, of English-Scotch ancestry on the father's side, and Holland ancestry on the mother's side. They came to Wisconsin with a family of six children in 1848, and settled in the town of Honey Creek, Walworth county, remaining there for three years, whence they removed to Hartford, Washington county, and here passed the remainder of their lives. The death of the father occurred in 1855 and that of the mother in 1856. They were farmers by occupation, thrifty and enterprising, and enjoyed the friendship of all with whom they came in contact. He was brought up in the Quaker faith and was a man of excellent habits and devoted much of his time to the buying and selling of stock. When engaged in farming he paid much attention to the raising of thoroughbred cattle, which he took pride in exhibiting at fairs, and often received the highest premium. Upon coming to Wisconsin he sold his farm in Niagara county containing 182 acres. He had a good common school education, and in later years was an active member of the Universalist church. He was an old-time Whig and a strong anti-slavery man, and often gave assistance to slaves in escaping from their masters.

Mr. Webster Kenyon attended the common schools of Niagara county and the select school taught by the Aldrich children, Quaker instructors. After coming to Wisconsin he attended the high school in Walworth county, which was supplemented by a special university course in engineering and surveying, and thereby acquired a thorough knowledge of civil engineering.

When he first came to Wisconsin Mr. Kenyon worked as a farm hand during the summer months while attending the common schools in winter, and for the first two years thus employed he received the munificent salary of $8.00 per month, and for the next three years he received $11.00 per month. After receiving so small a salary on the farm he was induced by a friend to go into the lumber regions of Michigan, and there obtained employment at $18.00 per month, but after a short time he joined a party of surveyors as chainman at a salary of $20.00 per month, and so apt was he and so faithful did he perform his duties his salary was soon raised to $60.00 per month. He afterward spent one

year in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad on their line between Milwaukee and Fox Lake, Wis. In the fall of 1854 he decided to go to Kansas, but on his way visited Monroe county and becoming so impressed with the advantages that this county offered he located in the town of Adrian and at once engaged in surveying, a business he followed part of the time in connection with his lumber interests near Tomah. During the civil war Mr. Kenyon was drafted for service and assigned to the Twenty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served with that regiment until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged.

Mr. Kenyon was three times married, the last time in 1886 to Miss Mary Gott, by whom there was no issue, but by his former marriages there were born four children, all of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Alma Eloise, Schuyler Colfax, Henry Wilson and Kathleena. A Republican in political faith, he took an active interest in the affairs of his party, and any public movement towards the betterment of the community always received his sanction and support. He served the county as surveyor for fifteen years. He was an active member in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in the Grand Army of the Republic. He moved to the city of Tomah in 1911, where he resided until his death, enjoying the fruits of his hard work which the years of conscientious endeavor brought.

George A. King, who resides in section thirty-five, Adrian township, is a descendant of one of the early settlers of Wisconsin. In the forties his parents, Robert and Harriet (Tobner) King, natives of Cambridgeshire, England, came to the United States and settled at Whitewater, Wis., where our subject, George A., was born April 9, 1856. In June of the following year the family moved from Whitewater to Monroe county, and located on the farm now owned and occupied by our subject. A short time after locating on this farm the parents went to Jacksonville, Adrian township, but soon returned to the homestead permanently, where they lived and experienced the hardships and trials of the pioneer. He was a veteran of the Civil War, having served as a member of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He was one of the representative citizens of Monroe county, a man of high ideas, a kind and generous neighbor, and one of the useful citizens of the county. His death occurred July 5, 1895, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, mother of our subject, who was a woman of many domestic virtues, a good wife and kind and

loving mother, passed away in November, 1879, at the age of fifty-four years, loved and respected by all who knew her.

George A. King is the second youngest of a family of three children; of the others, John J. is deceased, and Oscar R. resides in Tomah. Mr. King was reared on the home farm and attended the public school. He early started in life for himself and as a result of his thrift and ambition he acquired a farm of eighty acres adjoining the old homestead at the age of twenty-five years. The original farm was wild land, fully one-half of which has been improved by Mr. King, until now it contains 120 acres and is considered one of the finest homes in the county. The road passing the homestead farm was originally an Indian trail from Kickapoo to Gray Pines, and Indians could be seen flocking with baskets of blueberries to and from Tunnel City at nearly all times of the day. The view from this home is one of the most picturesque of any in Monroe county, and one can view the landscape for miles to the north and east from one of the highest altitudes of the township. Here Mr. King is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, and keeps a fine herd of Durham cattle in his dairy. In all public matters he takes a keen interest and any movement for the betterment of his community receives his loyal support. He has been chairman of the town board for five years and for a period of fourteen years has been one of the jury commissioners. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

In December, 1880, he was married to Miss Kate Seibold, daughter of George and Armenia (Knapp) Seibold, natives of Germany and Canada, respectively. In 1850 the father came to Baraboo, Wis., and from there came to La Grange township in Monroe county, and in 1869 moved to Ridgeville township, where they remained until 1887, when they moved to Tomah, where the father now resides, the mother having passed away in 1905 at the age of sixty-four years. Mrs. King is the eldest of a family of six children. The others are: Emma, wife of Truman R. Talbot, of Sparta; Ira Seibold, Tunnel City; Etta, wife of Bert Hoag, of Tomah; Olive, wife of Henry Skinner, of Tomah; Myrtle, wife of William Young, Spokane, Wash. Those deceased are George, Mary and Laura. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. King are Maude A., Una M., and Vyrgil M.

Thomas H. King, of Sparta, Wis., is a native of Monroe county, and was born in Wells township October 26, 1871. Among the pioneers of Wells township were George E. and Helen E. (Nichols) King, parents of Thomas H., who came from Cattarau-

gus county, New York, to Monroe county and entered a homestead of government land. They were thrifty and enterprising people and represented the best class of pioneer citizens, who devoted their lives to building up the country and adding to its taxable wealth. They reared a family of seven children, two sons and five daughters, viz.: Mina, wife of Robert Allen, of Wells township; Ida, wife of Thomas J. Taylor, of Sparta; Thomas H., the subject of this sketch; Millie M., wife of Charles Blake, of Sparta; George W.; Blanche, wife of Ernest Gerscheske, deceased, and Winnie, wife of Russell Catley, of Sparta.

Thomas S. King, paternal grandfather of our subject, was also among the early settlers of the same locality. Here he cleared up and brought to a high state of cultivation 120 acres and there spent his life. His death occurred in December, 1897, at the age of eighty-eight years.

Henry Nichols, the maternal grandfather of Mr. King, left the Empire state and came to Wisconsin early in 1854, and also entered a government claim of 160 acres, and later added to this claim additional land by purchase, which he owned at the time of his death about twenty-five years ago. His wife, the maternal grandmother of our subject, was Mary O. Stearns, who is still living at the age of eighty-one years, and her superior qualities of mind and heart attract to her the admiration of her many friends.

Thomas attended the district schools of his native township until he was fourteen years of age, when he entered the Sparta city schools, and upon completing his studies he entered the employ of E. E. Oliver, who was engaged in the general merchandise business at that time and later in the timber business in northern Wisconsin. He afterward spent two years as traveling salesman for a wholesale implement house in Milwaukee. In 1902 he opened an office at Sparta and embarked in the real estate business, in which he has been eminently successful, not only in his immediate locality, but in the sale of Monroe county improved farms and city property and southwestern lands.

On July 4, 1894, he married Miss Melila P. Lochington, of Crawford county, Wisconsin, and they have three children, viz.: M. Marie, Thomas R. and Helen I.

Mr. King is a man of fine social qualities, generous, kind-hearted and popular in the circles in which he moves.

Albinus Kirst, who for more than half a century has been a resident of Monroe county and an active citizen in developing the material resources of the county and aiding in its transformation

from a wilderness to its present place among the rich and fruitful counties of the state, is a native of Germany, and was born December 21, 1849. When he was six years old his parents, Gottlieb and Sophia (Weidmann) Kirst, came to this country from Germany, arriving in 1855, and after spending two years in the vicinity of Chicago they came to Wisconsin and first located in Greenfield township, this county, where they made their home until 1866, when they moved to Adrian township and settled on a farm of wild land in section twenty-three, cleared and cultivated it and made it their home, and here our subject now resides. The father, who attained the age of eighty-seven years and eight months, passed away in 1897. His wife, mother of our subject, died in 1871 at the early age of forty-nine years. They were hard-working, faithful and highly respected people, and the farm, which at the time of settlement contained but sixteen acres of cleared land, now consists of 120 acres of highly cultivated and productive soil.

Albinus Kirst is one of a family of six children. Of the others Louis is deceased; Ernestine is the wife of Bernard Drowatzky, of Tomah; Ida, widow of the late John F. Schultz, of Tomah; Emil is deceased, and Emma is now Mrs. James Ebert and lives in Tomah. Our subject coming to Monroe county with his parents, was reared on the home farm amid the struggles of pioneer life, and has always been a successful farmer. He is energetic, enterprising and progressive and a man of strict integrity. He takes pride in making his farm one of the best in the county. In 1891 he built a large and commodious barn and in 1908 a modern residence was erected on an elevation, backed by a beautiful oak grove, and is made picturesque to the observer, and in front of this is a sparkling spring of pure water, the pride of the owner of this ideal farm home. Mr. Kirst has always taken a keen interest in the affairs of his town, has been treasurer of the school district, and himself and wife are members of the German Lutheran church, of Tomah.

On March 31, 1874, Mr. Kirst was married to Miss Fredrecka Matzka, also a native of Germany. The fruits of this union has been seven children. Those living are: Anna; Leonard, who is pastor of the German Lutheran church at Cambria, Wis.; Lydia and Arthur. Louis, Otto and Rinold are deceased.

William C. Kirst, who conducts the farm of 165 acres in section twenty-two, Adrian township, the estate of his father, which has been his home all his life, is the son of Emil and Margratha (Wagner) Kirst, both natives of Germany. The father came with

his parents to America when he was two years of age, and they settled on this homestead when but few acres of it were cleared. They immediately set to work to improve the land and soon brought it to a good state of cultivation, built a residence and outbuildings, which have since been remodeled and improved by our subject, and is now one of the best farm homes in the county. Emil, our subject's father, was the son of Gottlieb Kirst, and died in 1907 at the age of fifty-two years. His widow, mother of William C., was born in 1857, the daughter of William and Sarah (Huth) Wagner, also natives of Germany, who came first to Milwaukee and six years later to Ridgeville township, Monroe county, more than fifty years ago. Her father was the founder of the St. John's German Lutheran church of Ridgeville, of which Mrs. Kirst is a devoted member, and makes her home with our subject.

William C. is the oldest of a family of six children; the others are: Rev. Ewald Kirst, who, after completing a ten years' course of study, is now pastor of the German Lutheran church at Ellensburg, Wash.; Ernest is a student of the agricultural department of the Wisconsin University at Madison; Alfred, of Adrian township, has also completed a thorough course in agriculture at the same university; Fred L. and Robert C., who are at home.

On June 27, 1912, Mr. Kirst was married to Miss Lillie Matzke, of Tomah. He lived at home until he was twenty-one years of age, obtained a good education in the schools of his neighborhood, and then learned the carpenters' trade, at which he has worked in connection with his farming operations for several years; he built many fine barns and other buildings in his community, and, besides conducting his home farm, he works the W. L. Rehberg place in the same township, and is considered one of the most prosperous and enterprising young farmers in the county. He is a man of ability and push and has served his town in various offices, being treasurer for three years, and is now filling the office of assessor, being elected in 1911.

Mathias Knorst, a native of Germany, is the son of Jacob and Mary (Hoff) Knorst and was born August 14, 1848. He came to America with his parents and four brothers and two sisters. He first located in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, where they resided until 1876, when the father purchased a farm of 160 acres of land, known as the Thompson farm, in section fifteen, Jefferson township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, and moved thither and there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1893. The mother died in 1895. He was an industrious and hard working man, and cleared, grubbed and transformed his farm from its

wild condition to a state of cultivation and productiveness. He was honorable and upright in all his dealings, and a man of influence in his town, and he and his wife worshiped at the Catholic church.

Mathias received his education in the parochial school, which he attended up to his thirteenth year, and remained at home with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-four. He came to Monroe county ten years after his father and located on a rented farm in Jefferson township, which he carried on for a time, and after the death of his father he acquired the old homestead, to which he has since made many and valuable improvements. Along the banks of the stream which runs through his place are found specimens of blue and white clay that resemble matrix stone taken out of the Rocky mountains in Colorado, and a rich red clay of metal appearance is found in large quantities and is believed by many to be valuable for manufacturing purposes. The farm also contains a good quality of limestone, and it is believed that the farm contains valuable minerals. Mr. Knorst is a progressive farmer, using the latest up-to-date methods in his operations, and is one of the influential public-spirited men of his town. His son J. J., who is an accomplished watchmaker and jeweler, has received a liberal education, resides at home and devotes much time in assisting his father in the farming operations.

On September 9, 1873, Mr. Knorst was married, in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, to Miss Barbara Franz, daughter of John and Catherine Franz, who were also natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Knorst have been born five children, four of whom are now living, viz.: Anna M., born March 5, 1875, married George Weiner and is the mother of six children; Catherine A., born July 12, 1877; Jacob J., born April 29, 1879, and Mary A., born May 13, 1881. In politics Mr. Knorst is a Democrat, and in religious affiliations he and his family are members of the Catholic church.

Nicolaus Koopman resides on section twenty-nine, LaGrange township and is one of the thrifty farmers of that section. He was born in the Province of Holstein, Germany, March 9, 1849; his father, Johan Koopman, never left the fatherland, preferring to spend his life in the country where he lived and died. He was the father of seven children; of the others, Johan lives at Bramstadt, Germany; Margarete is deceased; Henri, deceased; Anna, of Germany; John, of Tomah, and Kathrina, who lives in Germany.

Nicolaus received a common school education in his native town and at the age of fifteen years his father gave him one dollar and told him that he would have to make his own living. At the

age of twenty-one he entered the German army and served three years. In 1884 he came to America, and, upon his arrival in this country, came direct to Monroe county, landing at Tomah July 5 of that year. He spent a few days at Jacksonville, Wis., and on July 22, 1884, he entered the employ of the C. A. Goodyear Company, where he remained until April, 1912. During the period of from 1884 to 1897 he was a resident of the city of Tomah, but in the latter year he came to his present farm, which he has since carried on in addition to his business with the Goodyear Company. The residence on this place having been destroyed by fire, Mr. Koopman erected a small structure, which was replaced in 1911 by his present modern and commodious home. In addition to his residence, he has a fine barn, granary and hog house. The place is well improved by cultivation, and modern conveniences and appliances which go to make a model, up-to-date country home. In all his business ventures, Mr. Koopman has scored a grand success as a result of his thrift, ambition and fair dealing, and now abides at his ease in one of the best country homes in his township.

He was married, November 8, 1874, in his native country, to Miss Geeshen Sandkamp, daughter of Claus and Katherina Sandkamp. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Koopman, Marcus is deceased; Eliza married Carl Wagner, of Tomah; Emma is deceased, and Edward resides at home. In religious affiliations, Mr. and Mrs. Koopman are members of the German Lutheran church.

Carl Kortbein, a wealthy farmer and one of the leading men of this section of Monroe county, was born in the town of Ridgeville, this county, on June 30, 1865. His parents were David and Louisa (Kube) Kortbein, both natives of Germany. David came to America with his parents in 1856, and the family first located on a farm near Watertown, Wis., where they lived among the wilds for about five years, with the Indians for neighbors, and then moved to Monroe county in 1861. Christian Kortbein, his father, and grandfather of Carl, was an ambitious and thrifty farmer and labored hard against the difficulties of those pioneer days; he died in 1873, and his wife passed away two years previous. They were both devoted members of the Lutheran church. David acquired a good education in Germany, and was a close student in all matters of general importance in his native country, and, after coming to America, applied himself diligently to the task of obtaining a home for himself and family. He was married in Watertown, Wis., in 1862, and had a family of three children, two of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Carl and a twin brother,

Albert Kortbein. In 1895 they purchased the farm where our subject now resides, in sections twenty-four and thirteen in Ridgeville township. He was hard-working, energetic and persevering, and a man of excellent judgment in matters of public interest, as well as in his farming methods, and was considered a valuable citizen to his community. He was born in 1826 and died in 1912. His widow, mother of Carl, still lives at the homestead with her son, at the age of seventy years, and is held in the highest esteem by her many friends.

Carl has always lived on the home farm and until he was fifteen years old attended the district schools, where he acquired a good substantial education, considering the limited course, and after his school days were over he made a special effort to obtain the practical knowledge of matters in general which now ranks him among the foremost men of his township. He was married at the age of thirty-one, on June 23, 1896, to Miss Adelhaide Roscovius, daughter of Rudolph and Augusta Roscovius, in Adrian township, and they have had a family of five children, four of whom are now living, viz.: Edwin J., born July 4, 1897; Agnes, born April 10, 1899; Hilda, born December 15, 1901; Arnold, born October 4, 1902, and Ethel, born August 4, 1912.

Mrs. Kortbein is the second child of a family of ten children, nine of whom are now (1912) living. Her father was a railroad contractor and bridge builder and came to America from Germany with his family in 1872, and settled in Tomah, Monroe county, where he worked at his trade until he retired—twenty-seven years ago.

Anton Kroeger,* who was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, September 6, 1859, is the youngest of a family of three children—two of whom are now (1912) living—born to Henry and Anna Kroeger, both natives of Germany. They emigrated to America in 1852 and located first in New Jersey, from whence they came to Waukesha county, where the father worked for a time as a laborer. In 1860 he moved with his family to Monroe county and purchased a farm of 160 acres in Ridgeville township and added later eighty acres more, and here established the family home, where he lived until his death in 1907. His wife, mother of our subject, died in 1884. The father was an energetic, hard-working man and was a successful farmer and was considered authority on many points of agriculture. His first vote for president was cast for Franklin Pierce. Both he and Mrs. Kroeger were members of the Catholic church.

Anton Kroeger received his education in the district schools

and assisted his father with the farm work, living at home during their lifetime. In 1902 he purchased a farm of eighty acres in section eight, Ridgeville township, and has since been successfully engaged in general farming on his own place. He takes pride in keeping his place well improved and stocked, employing only the most up-to-date methods in his operations. In politics he is a Democrat and takes active interest in the affairs of his party. He has held minor local offices and is now (1912) assessor for the town of Ridgeville. He was married June 8, 1892, at Sparta, to Miss Kate Doll, daughter of John Doll, a pioneer of Monroe county. To this union has been born eight children, four sons and four daughters, viz.: Gertie L., Joseph A., Grace K., Walter B., Helen H., Alex. P., Ruth and James J.

George P. Kronberg, one of the industrious tillers of the soil in Monroe county, and a man of sound judgment and good practical sense, is the owner and proprietor of the Kronberg farm in section twenty-nine, Angelo township, consisting of eighty-four acres. He was born in Denmark, January 18, 1866, the son of N. J. and Christiana Kronberg. The father came to the United States in 1885, and is now (1912) living at West Salem, La Crosse county, Wisconsin. The mother, who was born in Denmark, spent her entire life in that country, where she died. George P. Kronberg, the subject of this sketch, attended the common schools of his native country, and was reared on the farm, where he remained until 1884, when he set sail for America. Upon his arrival in this country he came to Bangor, La Crosse county, Wisconsin, where he found he had but 5 cents in his pocket. He immediately found employment with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, and later with the Northwestern Railroad, and still later he hired out as a farm laborer, and continued at this occupation until 1891, when he came to Angelo township and purchased his present farm and immediately moved hither with his family. Since removing to his present place, Mr. Kronberg has remodeled and improved his residence, built a large and commodious barn, silo and other outbuildings, and has brought the soil to a high state of cultivation. Sixty-five acres of this farm is so highly improved that each year it produces a bountiful harvest. He is a practical, systematic and progressive farmer and gives particular attention to the fertilization of the land, the rotation of crops and other means of deriving the best results from his farm operations. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county, and is now serving his fourth term as member of the town board. He has been interested in the construction of bridges

on the highways and in other improvements of his township, and is known as a high-minded, public-spirited and successful citizen.

On July 1, 1888, Mr. Kronberg was united in marriage, at West Salem, La Crosse county, Wisconsin, to Miss Roberta Miller, daughter of Robert F. and Nancy D. (Washburn) Miller, natives of Ohio, and who came to La Crosse county in 1849, being among the early pioneers of that section, the towns of Burns and Bangor. He was a veteran of the Civil War and died soon after his return from the army, at the age of thirty-seven years. Mrs. Miller, mother of Mrs. Kronberg, is also deceased, her death having occurred in 1897. Abel Washburn, grandfather of Mrs. Kronberg, came from Ohio to Wisconsin in 1848, and was one of the most highly respected pioneers of Burns township, LaCrosse county, where he died at the age of eighty-six years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kronberg have been born four children: Robert P., born in July, 1889; Ruddie R., born June 11, 1892; Tressie C., born December 30, 1899, and Levi M., born August 11, 1903.

Irvin A. Krotzman, of Wells township, Monroe county, was born July 21, 1861; his parents were John E. and Fredarica (Woelflin) Krotzman, both natives of Germany. The father came to America before his marriage, and first located in Pennsylvania, where he worked at his trade of shoemaker for ten years. He then spent a short time in New York and in 1858 came to Wisconsin, locating at Sparta, but later moved to Walworth county, continuing at his trade until he purchased 160 acres of government land, to which he added until, at the time of his death, he owned 360 acres in Monroe county, where he lived for thirty-four years, then moved to Salem, La Crosse county, and resided with our subject. The father was born in 1824 and the mother in 1827. They toiled hard in the honest endeavor to build them a home, and suffered many privations at first, but in the end were successful, passing away at the close of a busy and well spent life, honored and respected by all who knew them. Mr. Krotzman died in 1895 and Mrs. Krotzman in 1901. They had a family of seven children, all of whom are living.

Irvin A. was the fifth child in the family and received a good education, and, after spending two years in the Sparta high school, he spent ten winters in teaching and working at the stone masons' trade during the summer months. He then embarked in the mercantile business, carrying on a general store at Clifton, Wis., for five years. Disposing of this business, he moved to Salem, La Crosse county, and engaged in the hotel business from 1893 to 1895, and then purchased the old homestead in section fourteen,

Wells township, where he has since resided and has been constantly adding to the improvements of the place. His house and barns are well built and of modern construction, and, in addition to his general farming, he carries on a paying dairy business, and his elegant fish pond near his residence is bountifully supplied with the finny tribe.

Mr. Krotzman is a man of thrift and ability and has made a grand success of the farming business since he began, as well as gaining the good will of his fellowmen. He is a Republican in politics and has served as chairman of the town board and also as clerk of the board. He was married, February 3, 1889, at Tomah, Wis., to Miss Carrie Frohmader. Four children have been born to them, three of whom are living, viz.: Celia, born April 1, 1891; John, born January 19, 1893, and Alma, born July 7, 1904. In religious affiliations, Mr. and Mrs. Krotzman are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sparta.

George F. Kuckuck owns one of the best 150-acre farms in Monroe county; it is located in sections seventeen and twenty, in Oakdale township, where he has lived since 1910. He is a carpenter by trade, but has followed the occupation of farming most of his life. He was born on January 30, 1888, in Oakdale township, the son of George and Rose (Gabower) Kuckuck, who were both natives of Germany. He lived at home and attended school until he was eighteen years of age and then learned the carpenters' trade and worked at that for about four years, after which he purchased his father's farm. On June 24, 1909, he was wedded, in Monroe county, to Miss Charlotte Avery, whose parents are early settlers here and highly respected people.

Mr. Kuckuck is one of the hustling young farmers of this locality, and is thoroughly up-to-date on all issues of public interest. At the present time he is secretary of the Oakdale Co-operative Butter Association and is a man of good business judgment. He is a Democrat in politics, and takes great interest in the movements of that party. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Lawrence A. Lane, of Cashton, Monroe county, Wisconsin, is a native of New York State, and was born at Plattsburg, August 10, 1851. His father, Dyer Lane, was born in Ottawa, Canada, October 21, 1828, and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Fitzpatrick, was born in England in 1830. They were married at St. Andrews, Canada, in 1846, where they resided until 1848, and removed in that year to Plattsburg, N. Y., where they made their home for nine years, thence in 1857 came west to Wisconsin and

first settled at Horicon. They remained here one year, and in 1858 went to Mauston, Juneau county, where they made their permanent home. The father followed the occupation of farming and lumbering, and, being thrifty and progressive, met with much success. He is still living (1912) at Mauston at the age of eighty-four years. The mother died in 1902. They were the parents of eleven children, eight of whom are now living, viz.: Mrs. Emery Root, who resides at Mauston; Lawrence A., our subject; Mrs. Thomas Dowd, of Omaha, Neb.; Alex. Lane, Rapid City, S. D.; Albert resides in western Nebraska; Mrs. Peter Comer, of Mauston; J. D. Lane lives at Mansfield, S. D. Those deceased are Mrs. Emery Newkirk, and Phoebe, who died at the age of twenty-seven years, and two children died in infancy.

Lawrence A. Lane was seven years old when his parents located at Mauston, attended the common schools at this place, after which he attended the Cashel & Rogers Business College at La Crosse, which is now known as the Wisconsin Business University. Here he received a thorough business training, and after completing the course was engaged as a school teacher, which vocation he followed for about twelve years. In 1882 he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad as warehouse man at New Lisbon. He remained thus employed for eight years, and so well did he perform the duties assigned him he was transferred in 1890 to Cashton and given entire charge of the company's business at that place, in which capacity he is still engaged.

On October 20, 1878, he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Meredith, who was born at Racine, Wis., October 10, 1853, daughter of Thomas and Ann Meredith, both natives of Wales. There were nine children born to them, viz.: Thomas, who enlisted and served in the Wisconsin Regiment in the Civil War, died while in the service; Mrs. Ernest Jewett, of Wheaton, Ill.; Mrs. Rachel Demeroe, of Grand Rapids, Wis.; George is deceased; Mrs. Lawrence A. Lane, deceased; Mrs. Sarah Lonie and Mrs. Robert Marshall, deceased; Edwin lives at New Lisbon, and Mrs. Maggie Rourke resides at Grand Rapids, Wis. One daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lane on December 21, 1881, and is now Mrs. Carl C. Coe.

On November 9, 1903, Mrs. Lane died. She was most highly esteemed by all who knew her, was a good wife and mother, and a lady of many womanly virtues.

A Democrat in political opinion, Mr. Lane takes an active part in the affairs of his party, and is interested in all matters per-

taining to the welfare of his community. He has served eleven years as clerk of the village of Cashton. Fraternally he is a member of the Cashton Camp, No. 2671, Modern Woodmen of America, and in religious matters is a member of the St. Peter and Paul's Catholic church. Mr. Lane was a member of Company D, Third Regiment Wisconsin National Guards, and spent five years in that service.

Joseph J. Lee, a prominent farmer of Portland township, is a native of Iesvold, Norway, where he was born June 29, 1847. He remained in the land of his nativity until he became twenty-two years of age and then came to the United States, landing at Sparta, Wis., May 17, 1869. The first three years after his arrival he made his home with his uncle, Lars Peterson. In 1872 he purchased a farm of 120 acres in section twenty-one, Portland township. The land was in a raw state and he immediately set to work to subdue, cultivate and improve it, and by hard work and perseverance he succeeded and now has one of the best cultivated and most productive farms of the township. His first house and also his barns were built out of logs, and so wild was the land that he found it necessary to grub the stumps in order to build the foundation for his house. To replace the old log house he has recently completed a modern twelve-room residence, finished in quartered oak, with a steam plant in the basement for heating and other up-to-date appliances, and his is now one of the finest homes in Monroe county. His barn, which is 34x86 feet, is one of the most modern barns in that section. It has 9-foot ceilings below, with a basement under the whole, with cement floor, and contains stable room for fifty head of cattle and six horses; also a modern silo, built in 1912.

On March 7, 1876, Mr. Lee was married to Miss Olive P. Benrud, who is also a native of Norway, and was born in the same town as Mr. Lee on April 12, 1856. They have a family of nine children, viz.: Leonard J., Mrs. Peter Peterson, Ole R., Mrs. Henry Peterson, Lenora, John A., Louis V., Albert and Estella.

Mr. Lee's whole life has been spent in farming and dairying. He was one of the original incorporators of the Farmers' dairy of Portland, and one of its directors, and for some time its secretary. He is a Republican in politics and has served several terms on the township board, and is a member of the Norwegian church. He came to America with limited means to start with, but as a result of his ambition and thrift, hard work and economy, he has added to his original purchase from time to time until he now owns 280 acres of fertile and highly cultivated land, and with his

JOSEPH J. LEE'S RESIDENCE

fine country home, is surrounded by a wide circle of friends, who regard him as one of the prosperous and influential citizens of the county.

J. B. Leis is a native of Cole's valley, Jefferson township, Monroe county, where he was born February 7, 1869. His parents, Bernard and Catherine Leis, who were both natives of Germany, came to America in the early fifties, and in 1857 located on the ridge in the town of Jefferson. They had a family of five children, our subject being the fourth. When the family first settled in Jefferson the father purchased a small tract of land and there lived until 1863, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War and with his regiment served in the Army of Tennessee until the close of the war, and after receiving his honorable discharge he returned to the old homestead and purchased 200 acres of wild land, and with his own hands cleared and grubbed 100 acres and converted it from a wild state to a highly productive farm. In those early days settlers were few and wild game, bear and deer, were plentiful, with Indians roaming over the country. Mr. Leis was a hard working man and always sociable and good natured, and held the confidence and esteem of his acquaintances. His word was considered as good as his bond. He and his wife were both members of the Catholic church and Mr. Leis assisted in building a little church at the cemetery where they worshiped, but which has since been destroyed by cyclone. He was an advocate of pure democracy and was a loyal supporter of this party all his life. He died in 1904. The mother passed away in 1907.

J. B. Leis, our subject, lived on the home farm until he was twenty-five years old, attending the district schools until his fifteenth year. After his marriage he moved on to his father-in-law's farm, which he rented for two years, and then engaged in the saloon business in Pine Hollow and operated that together with his farm. He purchased eighty acres of land in sections twenty-eight and twenty-nine and erected thereon a modern residence of ten rooms and a good, substantial barn. His farm is well stocked with good horses, cattle and hogs and the cream from his dairy is sold to the Farmers' Enterprise Creamery, at Cashton, of which he became president in 1909, a position he still holds. He is independent in politics and has held several minor offices. He has been supervisor for three years, and for a long time overseer of highways, and takes a deep interest in all matters of general importance, and is one of the public spirited men of his town.

On August 21, 1893, Mr. Leis was married to Miss Eva Han-

sen, daughter of P. J. Hansen, and they have five children, viz.: Henry B., born March 3, 1895; Katie E., born October 11, 1896; Lawrence H., born September 10, 1898; Celia M., born February 26, 1900, and Adella C., born December 24, 1902.

Capt. M. E. Leonard, Civil War veteran and an industrious citizen of Sparta, was born at Fort Ann., Washington county, New York, September 27, 1832, his parents being Jarvis and Eliza Leonard, both natives of New York state. Jarvis Leonard was the son of Elisha and Clara Leonard, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut, respectively. The early Leonard family were strong believers in the Baptist faith.

The subject of this sketch was the second of a family of three children, the first being Eliza Jane, wife of Rev. Robert A. Adams. She is now deceased, her death occurring in Boston, Mass., and Philetus A., who died at Odell, Ill., in February, 1912. Jarvis Leonard, father of our subject, was twice married. His second marriage was with Elizabeth Pierce, by whom he had one son, Mason Leonard, who lives at Chicora, Pa.

Captain Leonard was married December 10, 1869, to Miss Olive A. Damon, daughter of Seth and Mary Damon. She lived to the age of sixty-eight years and died in May, 1909. There were five children born to Captain and Mrs. Leonard, viz.: Eliza, married George Hasty and lived at Aberdeen, S. D., where she died; Frederick J. married Miss Lettie Burnham, of Cambridge, Mass. They have one child named Leona, and reside at La Crosse, Wis.; William T. lives at Watertown, S. D.; Arthur M., of Chicago, and Minnie B. Leonard, who resides at Sparta. Mr. Leonard was reared on the home farm, going with his family to Cattaraugus county, New York, whither they moved from Washington county in 1837. At the age of twenty-one Mr. Leonard began farming on his own account, which he followed until 1856. In early life he had made the acquaintance of the late Judge Morrow, of Sparta, and they became fast friends. In the year 1856 they decided to accept Horace Greeley's advice, "Go west, young man," and came to Wisconsin together in the fall of that year. It was with great difficulty, however, owing to Judge Morrow's ill health that they were able to reach Sparta. The first occupation accepted by Mr. Leonard after reaching this, the then new country, was that of clerk in the Hotel Monroe, where he remained until this hotel was destroyed by fire two years later. He then became clerk of the Denny House, which stood where the Warner House now stands. There were no railroads in those early days and the only means of travel was by stage coach, which was slow

and tedious. The line of coaches between Portage and St. Paul were run in relays and the duty of caring for the men in Sparta fell to Mr. Leonard. His experience as hotel clerk was varied and his duties strenuous in that he had to manage many a rough gang of men. This work was followed by varied experiences in other lines of business, and later he ventured into hop raising for two years. He then took up the trade of carpenter and joiner and built several of the early buildings of Sparta and many of the large barns in and about Sparta township, as well as the first silos and bridge were constructed by him. He continued at this trade until 1909, when he retired.

In July, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and the first service he performed was as a recruiting officer, a position he held for several months. The governor, appreciating his fitness to command, commissioned him captain of his regiment. Captain Leonard is one of the stalwart figures of Sparta and a man of strong physique. His experiences during the Civil War will be found among the reminiscences of this work. All through his service as captain of the Twenty-fifth Regiment his motto was, "Simply do your duty and fear nothing."

Gothern Liddle, who resides in section ten, Sparta township, was born at Herseyville, Monroe county, Wisconsin, August 24, 1874, and is the youngest of a family of seven children born to William and Mary (Aherne) Liddle, natives of England and Ireland, respectively. Of the others, Kate is now Mrs. John McVay, of Hardin, Mont.; William is deceased; Mary, wife of Charles Jarvis and resides at Culbertson, Mont.; Sarah, wife of Richard Barrett, Merrill, Wis.; Isabelle, Mrs. Charles Hubner, of Culbertson, Mont., and Mantille, wife of Jefferson Butterfield, who resides at Beach, N. D. In 1846 Mary Aherne, with money furnished by her mother, came to Canada and for two years made her home with William Tate, who at that time was engaged in surveying the Grand Trunk railway. In 1850 William Liddle came from England to Canada and while there met and married Mary Aherne. With money saved while a girl Mrs. Liddle bought a home of James Aherne near Saginaw, Mich., which she later traded with Stephen Wilbur for an eighty-acre farm at Herseyville, Monroe county, whither they went in 1861. Some nine years later disposing of the farm at Herseyville, they purchased what is known as the Putnam farm in Sparta township, where they removed in 1872, and afterwards bought the present home farm. Here Mr. Liddle died on February 3, 1909, at the age of seventy-

three years. He had been actively engaged in farming and railroading during his lifetime, was a man of genial temperament, kind-hearted and generous, and esteemed by all who knew him.

William Alexander Liddle, paternal grandfather of our subject, a native of Scotland, moved to Newcastle, England, in an early day, where he died when his son William was a boy. His wife, grandmother of our subject, was Isabelle (Donohue) Liddle, who died prior to her husband. Michael and Kate (Harden) Aherne, maternal grandparents, were born in Shandon and Limerick, Ireland. He died in Ireland and she at Saginaw, Mich., where she came after the death of her husband. He was a sailor on the deep seas and during the Crimean war sailed from England under the American flag. They had a family of three children, Mrs. Liddle being the only surviving member. Those deceased are Sarah, wife of Moses Kahoe, who was at one time foreman on the Evening Post, at Brooklyn, N. Y., and Katherine, who was the wife of Lewis Anger. On April 10, 1912, Mrs. Liddle celebrated her seventy-ninth birthday by entertaining a large number of her friends and neighbors.

Gothern Liddle received his preliminary education at the district schools of his home town, which was supplemented by a thorough course in the Sparta high school. With the exception of one year spent on the road as salesman for a farm machinery concern, Mr. Liddle's whole life has been spent on the farm, which, since reaching the age of twenty-two years, he has managed and conducted. The original farm, which consisted of eighty acres, has been added to from time to time until it now contains 200 acres of highly cultivated land. He has been lavish in his expenditures of time, energy and money in improving the farm, erecting a commodious and substantial residence, barns and silo, and supplying modern appliances and equipments, so that this is in reality one of the most desirable homes in Sparta township. Mr. Liddle has always carried on general farming and dairying and for many years has been counted one of the thrifty and prosperous farmers of his section, and an influential and wide-awake citizen. He has taken an active interest in township affairs and in 1912 was elected assessor. In religious belief he and his family are members of St. Patrick's church, of Sparta.

On October 26, 1910, Mr. Liddle was married to Miss Julia Madden, daughter of John and Julia (Crowley) Madden, natives of Limerick, Ireland. The father emigrated to America when sixteen years of age, and settled on a farm in Lemonweir town-

ship, Juneau county, near Mauston, where he was engaged in farming and railroading for forty years. He died February 15, 1904, at the age of eighty-two years, beloved and esteemed by all who knew him. His wife, mother of Mrs. Liddle, who was a woman of many domestic virtues, held the confidence and respect of her wide circle of friends, survived until September 25, 1905, when she passed away. They raised a family of nine children, as follows: Anna, wife of James McCarty, of Iron River, Wis.; John, resides at Minneapolis and is conductor on the Great Westtern railroad; P. H. is roadmaster on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road from Portage to La Crosse; Maggie married John Hurey, of Mauston; James lives on the old homestead; David is deceased; Julia, wife of our subject; Dennis, of Chisholm, Minn., and Beatrice, wife of John Maloney, a farmer in Juneau county.

George F. Lillie comes of Scotch ancestors. His parents, William and Isabella (Young) Lillie, left Scotland in 1858 and upon their arrival in this country settled at Lake Champlain, N. Y., where they remained but a short time. They again moved westward, settling in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where our subject, George F., was born on October 6, 1860. In the spring of the following year they came to Monroe county and settled on a farm in Wellington township. They followed agricultural pursuits for several years in this township, then moved to the village of Kendall, in Monroe county, where he followed the trade of carpenter and builder. He held the office of township treasurer for several terms, was a member of the school board and filled other minor offices. Mr. and Mrs. Lillie were among the early and most respected pioneers of their section, and after a long and busy life Mr. Lillie died in October, 1903, at the age of seventy-eight, and Mrs. Lillie passed away in 1871 at the age of forty-one years, respected and esteemed by all who knew them.

William Lillie was the son of David Lillie, a blacksmith by trade, who spent his entire life at Orwell, Vt. The father of Mrs. Lillie, and grandfather of our subject, was William Young. James, a brother of William Lillie, was a farmer at Orwell, Vt., where he died. He was in the service for his country in the Civil War. Walter Lillie, another brother of the late William Lillie, is still living at Orwell, Vt., and is engaged in making and sharpening marble cutters' tools.

George F. Lillie is the seventh of a family of eight children. The others are Betsy H., wife of James M. Gordon, of Nebraska; Frances, wife of Nelson Crouch, and resides at Kendall, in this county; Loran E. Lillie lives at Boone, Ia., and David, James,

William and Walter are deceased. Mr. Lillie was reared on his father's farm in Wellington township, attended the common schools, and at the age of nineteen years was employed in a country store conducted by Samuel Cholvin. At the age of twenty years he entered the employ of Messrs. Burrington & Lockwood, merchants at Kendall, with whom he remained for three years. After spending one year in Nebraska he returned to Kendall and embarked in the grocery business on his own account. He later added other lines and for thirteen years successfully conducted a general store. In 1898 he was elected clerk of the circuit court for Monroe county, and disposing of his merchandise interests, assumed charge of that office. He was re-elected for a second term, at the close of which he entered the employ of the Wisconsin Telephone Company. After two years spent in the telephone service he, in September, 1897, removed to Sibley, Ia., and there conducted a bakery and restaurant for one and a half years. Returning to Sparta in 1909 he decided to again engage in business in his home town, and on April 24, of that year, opened a variety store, which he made a success, and in 1911 enlarged his facilities and changed the name to the Variety Emporium, and is now conducting a thriving and prosperous business. He is a man of sterling worth and industrious habits, generous in his dealings and well liked by his customers. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias order and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On October 31, 1883, Mr. Lillie married Miss Annie Josephine McFee, daughter of Washington and Eliza (Hart) McFee, of Ontario, Vernon county, Wisconsin. Their children are Earl B., who resides in Portage, Wis.; Mamie J. and Paul W. reside at Sparta. Dean H., George W. and Gladys are deceased.

Joseph A. Lincoln* is a native of Wilton, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he was born May 11, 1873. He is a son of George and Hannah (Falkner) Lincoln. George Lincoln, the father of our subject, was a native of Dorset, Vt., and his father, James Lincoln, emigrated with his family from Vermont to Illinois, and after a short time came to Wisconsin, locating in the town of Wilton in the early fifties, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land in section ten of that town. where George, his son, bought eighty acres of land in the same section, and his father, James, had acquired 440 acres at the time of his death. He experienced the ups and downs of pioneer life, with the land wild and uncultivated. The homestead is now occupied by our subject and the house built on this farm is one of the oldest land-marks in

the valley. James, the grandfather of our subject, reared a family of five children, of whom George, father of our subject, is the only surviving member. George Lincoln attended the district school and at the age of eighteen began to learn the carpenter's trade, to which he gave his undivided attention for several years. His marriage occurred in 1870 and to this union were born eleven children, the subject of this sketch being the second child. In 1891 he removed with his family to Hebron, N. D., where he has been successful, and is now the owner of 320 acres of land in that northwest country.

Joseph attended the public school up to his sixteenth year and made his home with his uncle, Joseph Lincoln, and was always a laborer until 1906, when he became the owner of sixty acres of choice land in Wilton township.

October 25, 1895, he was united in marriage with Miss Isabell Allingham, daughter of Hugh O. and Elizabeth Allingham. They have one son, Hugh O., born November 1, 1899. Mrs. Lincoln has one brother, Hugh O. Allingham, Jr. The father of Mrs. Lincoln is a resident of Tomah township, and is the owner of 143 acres of land. In politics Mr. Lincoln is a Republican and active in the interest of his party. In 1912 he was elected chairman of the town of Wilton.

William Wallace Link. Among the early settlers in western Wisconsin, away back early in the Nineteenth century, was Henry A. Link, father of the subject of this sketch. A native of Kinderhook, N. Y., he left that state at about the time mentioned, and became located in what is now the Leon Valley, in Monroe county. He was a son of Nicholas Link and grandson of William Link, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. His ancestors were natives of Holland, and settled at an early day on the North river in Columbia county, New York. Here Henry A. was reared and educated. His wife was Laura Hutchins, daughter of M. and Sybil (Simpson) Hutchins, of Scotch and Irish ancestry. They raised a family of eleven children, five of whom are now living. He was born in the town of Kinderhook, state of New York, in 1809, and died in January, 1880, aged seventy years. He was a successful farmer in his native state, where he grew to manhood, and received a good education. He was a student of economic principles and a man of good sound judgment; in every walk of life his career was above criticism or reproach; a man of unbending honor, incorruptible honesty, broad but practical charity, noble and generous in his dealings, dignified in his manhood, worthy as a citizen, true and faithful as a friend, he merited and

received the honor and respect of all who knew him. He at one time ran for member of the general assembly of New York state, being defeated by one vote; was a Jacksonian Democrat and a believer in principles of Democracy, and after coming to Wisconsin attained to a position of prominence in every movement of public interest. He held many town offices, was justice of the peace for a number of years, and his advice was sought on many occasions by the people of his town.

With a view to bettering his condition, Henry A. Link came to Wisconsin on a tour of inspection and upon his arrival in the Leon Valley he was so impressed with the country that he purchased 120 acres of land which he cultivated and seeded, then returned to his native state for his family. Taking passage at Buffalo, they came by the way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, from which point they came to Portage City, where they purchased a team of horses and wagon with which they traveled overland to the Leon Valley in Monroe county, arriving here in September, 1853. He added to his original purchase from time to time until he had acquired 1,000 acres of the choice land in the valley, besides purchasing other tracts in Iowa and Missouri. He was one of Monroe county's foremost citizens, kind and considerate of the poor, to whom he always extended a helping hand. in many instances cancelling the debts owed him without any remuneration. He was a man of decided views and disliked the aristocrat and looked with disfavor on the rich who took advantage of their poor debtors to increase their own fortunes. To charitable subjects he gave thousands of dollars, and will always be remembered as one of the most liberal, open-hearted men in the county. When he arrived in this section but few settlers lived near him. His was the first frame residence erected in the Leon Valley, and at this time trips to Delton, Wis., a distance of 100 miles, were necessary to secure flour and other provisions. He always bought as much as he could haul and sold the surplus to his neighbors. His wife, mother of William W., was born in New York state in 1815, and died in August, 1878, at the age of sixty-three years. She was a woman of rare womanly graces, a devout Christian, and, while in New York, was with her husband a consistent member of the Lutheran church, but after coming to Wisconsin became a Congregationalist.

William Wallace Link was born in Columbia county, New York, October 27, 1837, and came to Wisconsin in 1853 with his parents and family, consisting at that time of nine children. He attended the common schools of New York state, receiving a

limited education, but he was a constant reader and close observer of events and became thoroughly posted on almost any subject. He delved into historical science, mental and moral philosophy, and is also a great Bible student. He has become a theologian and from deep thinking and study has accepted the belief which he now enjoys, when the Almighty manifests himself in different and mysterious ways to his children he has created in this world. William remained at home assisting on the farm until he was twenty-six years of age, when he went West to Montana, where he remained two years. At the end of that time he returned home and rented his father's farm, which he carried on for two years, when he purchased a farm of 120 acres and has since made additions until now he has a farm of 270 acres of choice valley land, located near the village of Leon. Mr. Link is the oldest living settler in the Leon Valley, and is one of the most prosperous and influential citizens of the county. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county, and in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his community he gives his hearty support. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, but previous to becoming allied with the Prohibition party he had been active in the interest of Democracy. While he has never sought official position, he has held many minor town offices and for several years was justice of the peace; being a member of the county board for three years. He is now clerk of the school district in which he lives and has filled that position for more than twenty-five years, having always taken a deep interest in educational matters.

Mr. Link has been twice married; his first marriage was with Miss Carrie Olson, on June 7, 1868. Seven children were born to this union, three of whom are now living, viz.: Dorothy, who is now in the office of the secretary of the Board of Trade at Chicago; George Martin is instructor in the high school of Minneapolis, Minn., and O. R. is in the United States mail service and resides at Leon. Mrs. Link died June 1, 1879, and on February 28, 1881, he was married for the second time to Miss Irene Underwood, who was born in Lorain county, Ohio, she was reared in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where she was educated. Her father, who died in Vernon county, Wisconsin, in 1882, was a native of New York state, and was a soldier in the Civil War, as were his two sons, Oliver and Horace. The mother, whose maiden name was Eliza Hunter, was a native of Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Link have been born two children; Ethel J., now Mrs. Howard G.

Slayton, postmistress of Leon, and Winfied W., who is engaged in farming on the homestead farm.

Charles E. Loomer is one of those unassuming men who has proven his worth both as a soldier and a citizen. He was one of the first to take up arms in defense of his country at the beginning of the Civil War, and when no longer needed in the ranks of the firing line, he dropped the tools of strife and put his hand to the plow in an honest endeavor to redeem the wilderness and make two blades of grass grow where only one grew before.

He is a native of Massachusetts and was born at Boston October 1, 1841, the son of Charles and Mary Ann (Rivers) Loomer, natives of Nova Scotia, from where they moved to Massachusetts, and in the early sixties to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled on the farm now owned by our subject. He was a ship carpenter by trade and after coming to the then new country, worked at his trade building houses for settlers. He was prominent in his community and held many local offices. Both he and our subject's mother were born in 1809 and both died the same year—in 1877. Mr. Loomer, our subject is the only surviving member of a family of eight children. Mary, who married Henry Van Antwerp, died at Sparta November 4, 1911; Hattie, who married Gideon Bigelow, and died at San Jose, Calif., May 10, 1912; Maria died at the age of eighteen, and the others died when young.

Charles E. Loomer received his education in the common schools of his home town, and when ten years of age, his parents moved to Kansas, where they pre-empted Government land; after ten years spent in the Sunflower state the family came to Wisconsin and settled at Sugar Creek, in Walworth county, on a farm purchased by the father. Charles remained here until 1865, when he married and came to Monroe county, settling first in Glendale township, moving to his present farm the following year, which was then a forest in the wilderness of the northern part of LaGrange township, which, at that time formed a part of the town of Lincoln. He purchased his land of James B. Avery, who had bought the land with script, and here Mr. Loomer assumed the task of clearing and subduing the land and establishing a permanent home. He proceeded to build a home, 16 x 24, and in 1869 built his present residence, which has since undergone repairs and additions made. A house erected by his father now forms a part of this residence. Out of these primitive surroundings, with the Indians for neighbors, he carved out a home, and by persistent effort has subdued and brought the land

to a high state of cultivation, and now enjoys the fruits of his many years of toil. Out of the original wilderness he still retains a ten-acre tract of woodland of the forest, which has yet not seen the woodman's axe, and is a marvel of beauty. Besides cultivating and improving the land by substantial buildings, as opportunity afforded, Mr. Loomer has this year (1912) erected a substantial modern residence in the city of Tomah. He occupies a prominent place in his community, has been a member of the board of supervisors, and takes a commendable interest in church work.

He was married on October 6, 1865, to Miss Phoebe C. Parkyn, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Rebecca (Lake) Parkyn, natives of England and New Jersey, respectively. The father was of the Free Will Baptist persuasion, and a man of influence in his denomination. He was born in 1812 and died in Nebraska in his eighty-eighth year; Mrs. Loomer's mother survived until 1909, when she passed away at the age of ninety-three. Mrs. Loomer was born in LeRoy, Genesee county, N. Y., September 29, 1840, one of a family of five children, viz.: John L., of Mountain Grove, Mo.; Mrs. Loomer, Mary H., wife of Byron Jenkins, of Holbrook, Neb.; Joseph O., of Hillsdale, Mich., and Alice, who married Elisha Hulce, of Walworth county, Wisconsin, is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Loomer are members of the LaGrange Methodist Episcopal church.

On September 2, 1861, Mr. Loomer enlisted in company I, thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry, which was detailed for duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and thence to Fort Scott. The regiment was ordered to Alabama, thence to Chattanooga, Tenn. Upon reaching Knightsville, Mr. Loomer was taken ill and sent to a hospital, where he was given a furlough; he served until the close of the war and was finally discharged in July, 1865, having attained to the rank of sergeant.

John J. Lucas, dealer in ice, of Sparta, comes from English ancestry. He was born February 8, 1854, the son of James and Berthia (Lewis) Lucas, who came to New York state from England, their native country, in the early forties, locating first at East Galway. He being a glove cutter by trade, here found employment in the glove business, and after a short sojourn, moved to Gloversville, and thence to Funda's Bush, where he continued to work at his trade for some two years. In 1856 he left the Empire state and came west to Sparta, where he was employed by Hageman & Roberts for two years, and then moved to Hartford, Wis., and remained there for the next two years.

He then moved to Chicago, Ill., and there lost his life in the great fire of 1871, being then sixty-eight years of age. His widow, mother of our subject, died about 1872.

John J. is the youngest of a family of four children, three of whom are now living. After obtaining an education in the public schools, he secured employment on a farm in Dane county for a time, and later went to Fond du Lac, Wis., where he learned the paper maker's trade, and for a period of two years was in the employ of George Hunter. At the end of that time he went to Kaukauna, Wis., and after spending one year in the paper mills at this place, came to Sparta, and in the year 1879 engaged in the paper making business with the late O. I. Newton, whose plant was on the site of the present electric light and power company plant. He remained with Mr. Newton for six years.

Fraternally Mr. Lucas is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. He was married in 1875 to Miss Maggie Gartman, daughter of Alexander and Christina (Many) Gartman. Mrs. Lucas died January 4, 1898, leaving, besides her husband, four children, viz.: Earl Spencer, Nina, Maude, who married Walter Lake and resides in California, and Alexander Lucas, of Sparta.

In June, 1910, Mr. Lucas was again married to Miss Estella Grove, of La Crosse, Wis.

Herman Ludeking is a prosperous German farmer of section four, in the town of Wilton, Monroe county, where he first bought ninety-six acres in 1889, and later added another twenty acres, making his present farm contain about 110 acres. He was born in Germany on April 7, 1859, and came to America with his parents and three other children in 1872 and located in Wilton township. There the father worked for about one year as a farm laborer, then bought eighty acres in section four, where they made their home for twenty-two years, and he died in 1894 and the mother in 1899. They had seven children, four of whom are now (1912) living. They were among the best people of their township; Republican in politics and members of the German Reformed church.

Herman began his career as a farm laborer, receiving $30 for his first year's work. He continued, however, in this business for about nine years and then purchased a farm of his own. He was married on December 31, 1885, to Miss Emma Helmke, who died in 1894, leaving three children, two of whom are now living: Myrtle, born October 26, 1886, and Pearl, born August 17, 1888. Mr. Ludeking was married for the second time on December 1.

1895, in the town of Adrian, to Miss Emma Wendland; her parents settled in Adrian, where the father died in 1904, and the mother still lives at the age of sixty-five years. They had a farm of 120 acres and a family of nine children, all members of the Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Ludeking have had a family of five children, three of whom are living: Martha, born September 14, 1897; Alvira, born August 16, 1905, and Lorenz, born September 10, 1911.

Mr. Ludeking is a thrifty general farmer and employs the latest methods in his farming operations; his stock is of the best grade, and at present (1912) he is erecting a new modern residence, which makes his home ideal in every respect.

Albert William Luebchow, one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of Monroe county, was born in Germany, August 6, 1866, to August and Louise (Rehbein) Luebchow. When four years of age, he with three other children accompanied his parents to America, arriving in this country in 1870. The family located in Iroquois county, Illinois, where they made their home and spent their lives, the death of the father occurring in 1908, and that of the mother in 1904. They had a family of seven children, of whom three are now living, viz: Albert William, Frank and Jacob. He was a member of the Lutheran church and a devoted Christian, and at the time of his death owned a farm of 160 acres in Iroquois county, Illinois.

Albert William was reared on his father's farm, attending the district schools and assisting in the farm work. When twenty-eight years old, on April 28, 1894, he was married at Tomah to Miss Minnie Rasch. Four children have been born to them, viz: Hilda, Emma, George and Alice. For six years after his marriage Mr. Luebchow and his wife resided with his parents. In 1902 he moved to the city of Tomah and purchased and ran a feed barn, and after remaining here a short time, he purchased a farm of 190 acres in section eighteen, Tomah township, where he moved and has since resided, engaged in general farming, and carries on quite an extensive dairy business, supplying the Tomah creamery with a large amount of milk and cream. He is considered one of the most thrifty and prosperous farmers of his section; a man of sterling character, faithful in all he undertakes, and is highly esteemed in his neighborhood. He is a Republican in political opinion, and although he has never aspired to political office, he has served three years as school director and has been commissioner of public highways. He takes a commendable interest in all public affairs, and all

matters pertaining to the betterment of the community receive his hearty support.

Fred E. Luethe, one of the progressive farmers of Ridgeville township, was born in Switzerland, November 2, 1848, and is the first child born to Jacob and Anna Barbara (Hertig) Luethe. Mr. Luethe received a good normal school education and after spending several years teaching high school in Switzerland, he came to Wisconsin, and after working nine months on a farm in Sheldon township, purchased eighty acres of land in that town. He was married to Mrs. Minnie Heitmann (nee Farner) in 1884. To this union six children were born, namely: Emma P., Walter J., Werner C., Dorothy S. B., Otto F. and Ernst A. W. In 1886 they moved to Norwalk, where Mr. Luethe was engaged in the sawmill business for some time.

In September, 1893, he purchased a farm of 160 acres in section twenty-one of the town of Ridgeville, to which he subsequently added eighty acres, owning at the present time, 220 acres where he now resides.

He is one of the successful farmers and prominent citizens of Ridgeville township, and has made many valuable improvements on his farm. He built a large and commodious barn, 34 by 64 feet, in 1898, and his modern twelve-room residence was erected in 1899, and later many other outbuildings.

Mr. Luethe takes a prominent part in the affairs of his town, and has been called upon to fill several important offices. He has been clerk of the town for twenty-one years, school treasurer for twelve years, and in 1903 helped to organize the Norwalk Creamery Company of which he has since been secretary. He is one of the well-to-do men of his town, public spirited and influential. In politics he adheres to the principles of the Republican party, while in religious matters he and his wife and children are members of the German Evangelical church.

Appleton N. Maltby, postmaster at Oakdale, Wis., was born October 16, 1840, in Dekalb county, Indiana. His parents, Noah and Jane (Coleman) Maltby, were natives of New York state, having been born in Oneida county. They came west to Indiana in 1838, and after a residence there of ten years, moved to Illinois in 1848, and in 1852 went to Iowa, and in 1860, they came to Tomah, Wis. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and for many years was express agent at Tomah. The father later went to Greeley, Colo., where he died in 1899, at the age of eighty-eight years. The mother passed away in 1892. They reared a family of seven children, five of whom are now living.

Appleton N. received his education in the common schools of Indiana and Iowa, and in 1859 came to Tomah and for thirty years was employed in the saw mills. He was married on December 27, 1862, to Miss Clemy I. Baker, daughter of Enoch Baker, an old and highly respected citizen, who came from Washington county, New York, and settled in Oakdale township, in 1855. Mrs. Maltby is the only surviving member of a family of three children, and at the death of her father inherited 200 acres of land near the village of Oakdale. Mr. and Mrs. Maltby have one daughter, Leah, born August 25, 1866, who is now the wife of J. N. Weloby.

Mr. Maltby was appointed postmaster of Oakdale in 1897, and is still the incumbent. He has held the office of town clerk for six years, and for eight years has been treasurer of his school district. He is now retired from active business, except the duties of postmaster.

On August 7, 1862, at Tomah, he enlisted in company D, twenty-fifth regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. His regiment was sent to Minnesota during the Indian Massacre, afterwards returning to La Crosse, and in February, 1863, was ordered to Columbus, Ky., and from there to Vicksburg, and took part in the siege of that city, and the capture of Helena, Ark. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea and later his regiment was transferred to the army of Tennessee. At the battle of Atlanta, his company went into the engagement with thirty-four guns and came out with seventeen. He was honorably discharged at Washington, D. C., in 1865. In fraternal matters, Mr. Maltby is a member of the Masonic order, and Henry W. Cressy Post, G. A. R., of Tomah.

F. E. Markgraf*. The parents of F. E. Markgraf, Frederick and Anna (Umbright) Markgraf, came to America from Germany in the early fifties with a family of two children. After two years spent at Madison, Wis., they moved to the town of Sheldon in Monroe county, where the father purchased a small farm, which he afterwards sold and purchased 320 acres of wild land in sections ten, three and eleven of the same town, and there established a family home and commenced the life of a farmer in the then new country. With no capital but his native ability, in a wilderness without settlement, and markets and trading posts a long way off, and the only means of transportation an ox team, here he built a small log house, and as there were no shingles or roofing to be had, bed sheets were substituted for the roofing which sufficed until a better one could be procured. There the

family lived for six years, when a larger and better log house was constructed, which they afterward occupied for twenty years. Mr. Markgraf set diligently to work clearing and cultivating his land, and from a sickly calf presented to him, he commenced the raising of stock which resulted in the successful breeding and the building up of a large herd of Durham cattle, with which he in later years kept the farm well supplied. In those early days wild game was plentiful and the family relied on the deer for their meat supply. Mr. Markgraf, Sr., was in every way a successful farmer, a model citizen, and well informed on almost any subject. In politics he was a Republican, and in religious matters affiliated with the German Evangelical church. In this family there were twelve children, of whom two sons and four daughters are now living. Prior to the death of the father he sold his farm to his son, the subject of this sketch. His wife, mother of our subject, is also deceased.

F. E. Markgraf was born in the town of Sheldon, July 20, 1862, and had the advantages of the district schools until his fifteenth year. He assisted in the management of his father's farm until he purchased it. He cleared 100 acres, and following in the footsteps of his father, has brought it from a wild to a highly cultivated state, and with the substantial residence, barns and other outbuildings, makes it one of the best farms in Sheldon township. Besides general farming, Mr. Markgraf is a breeder of Durham cattle, high grade hogs and sheep, and his farm is well supplied with modern equipments.

He was married at Watertown, Wis., to Miss Tillie Osbreich, daughter of William and E. O. Osbreich. They have three children, viz: Elma, born February 26, 1890; Louis, born March 4, 1895, and Ada, born April 24, 1897.

David C. Marten*, whose parents, David F. and Caroline (Link) Marten, were early pioneers of Wilton, Monroe county, owns a nice farm of 160 acres in sections four and nine of Wilton township. He was born here on February 22, 1868, and attended school until he was fifteen years old and for several years afterward, worked as a farm hand in his neighborhood. On November 23, 1898, he was married in the town of Oakdale, to Miss Amelia Rogge, daughter of Henry and Johanna Rogge. She was the sixth child of a family of nine children and was educated in the district schools. Mr. and Mrs. Marten have two children, Erma Caroline, born September 19, 1899, and Elba Henry, born March 18, 1903.

David F. Marten came to America in 1857, two years after his

brother came, and settled in Monroe county. David worked as a farm laborer for a while, then bought eighty acres in section three, in the town of Wilton, and lived there until he died on August 22, 1905. They had a family of nine children, eight of whom are living. He was a hard working man and good citizen, and in acquiring his beautiful home, he passed through the trials and hardships of the pioneer, and at his death, left his widow and family in comfortable circumstances. Mrs. Marten is still living at the age of sixty-six years.

Our subject is a successful farmer and makes a specialty of the dairy business; he keeps the best grade of stock and uses the latest methods in his management of the farm. In 1901 he built a nice barn and in 1898 built his residence, with which his other buildings correspond. He is independent in his political views and they are devoted members of the Lutheran church.

Frank Mashak* is another one of the wide-awake and progressive men of Portland township, and is the son of Frank J. and Razy (Sleider) Mashak, natives of Poland and Bohemia respectively. The father came to the United States with his parents when he was nine years of age and early in the seventies he located on a farm of 182 acres in section seventeen, Portland township, Monroe county, where our subject, Frank, was born October 9, 1877. When the father settled on his farm, it was all wild land covered with a heavy growth of timber, which he cleared and brought to a good state of cultivation, improving the farm with a substantial residence, barns and other outbuildings, and here made his home until 1904, when he moved to the village of Cashton, where he now resides. Mr. and Mrs. Mashak raised a family of seven children, of which our subject is the third in order of birth. The others are: John, of Cashton; Lena, the wife of Jake Konen, resides in Washington township, La Crosse county; Razy is the wife of Albert Marx and lives at Cashton; Vincent lives at Melvina, where he is engaged in the hardware business; Louis and Edward, who reside in Portland township.

The subject of this sketch attended the district schools and lived on the home farm, assisting in the farm work until 1904, when he purchased the place, which he has since carried on with marked success. He is engaged in general farming and dairying and uses all the improved methods in his operation.

On June 7, 1904, Mr. Mashak was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Dagenhardt, daughter of Henry and Katherine Dagenhardt, of St. Mary's Ridge, Jefferson township. To this union

has been born five children, viz: Ethel, Clarence, Raymond, Sylvester and Lorine. Mr. Mashak is a public spirited, enterprising citizen, and takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county, and for three years has been a member of the town board. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Middle Ridge Catholic church.

John W. Mashak*, son of Frank J. and Razy (Sleider) Mashak, early settlers and prosperous citizens of Monroe county, was born January 25, 1872, in the town of Portland. He attended the district school and remained at home with his parents until he was twenty-three, when on May 23, 1895, he married in La Crosse county, Miss Mary Corn, one of a family of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Mashak have two children, Joseph and Levi. After his marriage, Mr. Mashak purchased a farm of 215 acres, where he lived for five years, then moved into the village of Melvina in Jefferson township, and for a short time was engaged in the saloon business. He erected a large brick business building, which is now owned by Tony Pelzer. After disposing of his interests in Melvina, Mr. Mashak, in 1905, moved to the village of Cashton and again embarked in the saloon business, but soon moved from his first location to one near the depot, and after one year, re-purchased his first saloon and has since operated that.

Besides the 215-acre farm which he owns, he purchased in 1906 another farm adjacent to the village of Cashton, which he disposed of in 1907. He also owns considerable property in Cashton. In 1911 he went into the automobile business and now conducts a large garage where he does all kinds of automobile repairing and handles the sale of the Jackson automobile, and is doing a splendid business in this line.

Mr. Mashak is one of the most enterprising business men of Cashton, public spirited and progressive, and takes a commendable interest in all public matters, especially in those of his town and county. He is a Democrat in politics, and both he and his estimable wife are members of the Pine Hollow Catholic church.

Vincent Mashak*' leading hardware merchant at Melvina, Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born April 14, 1883, and is one of a family of eight children, seven of whom are now living, born to Frank and Razy (Sleider) Mashak, natives of Poland and Bohemia respectively; both are now living, the former at the age of sixty-two and the latter at the age of sixty years. Emigrating to America, the father started life as a poor man, locating near Melvina in Monroe county, forty years ago. He endured the

struggles and hardships of pioneer life in a new country, and by hard work and perseverance became the owner of six hundred acres of land, much of which was in its wild state. He was energetic and thrifty, and brought the land to a good state of cultivation and improvement and it is now worth $100 per acre. He recently removed to the village of Cashton, where he now lives in retirement, enjoying the fruits of his many years of activity and toil.

Vincent, though comparatively a young man, possesses good business judgment and is prosperous in his hardware business. He received his education in the common school, which he attended until sixteen years of age, then for three years was employed as clerk in a Cashton store. In 1905, he purchased a stock of hardware and located at Melvina, where he has dealt extensively in general hardware, agricultural implements, gas engines and sanitary dairy machinery. Besides his business interests, Mr. Mashak is quite an extensive owner of real estate in Melvina.

On May 8, 1907, Mr. Mashak was married to Miss Lizzie Seitz, daughter of Anton Seitz, and to them have been born two children, viz: Earl and Alta Mashak. In politics, Mr. Mashak is independent in thought and action, and in religious matters he and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic church.

Ellis E. Matteson, a native of Monroe county, Wisconsin, is the son of Mark P. and Eliza (Lock) Matteson, and was born in Little Falls township, December 9, 1867. The father was a native of Michigan and the mother was born in Canada in 1852. They came to Wisconsin with their family and settled at Hartford, Wis., moving from there to the town of Little Falls near Cataract, where the father purchased a farm of 120 acres, established the family home and reared his family and lived until his death in 1889. He was a successful farmer, and as a man, was held in high esteem and respected as a citizen and neighbor. He took a keen interest in the affairs of his town and county and served on the town board, and for several years was a school director. He was a Republican in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Episcopal church. They had a family of nine children, of whom six are now living, viz: Mrs. Christenia Hyslop, Mrs. Amy Morgan, D. T., V. M., A. L., and Ellis E.

Reared on the home farm, Ellis E. attended the district school until he was sixteen years of age, assisted with the farm work and remained at home until he attained his twenty-third year. On April 30, 1891, he was married to Miss Bertha A. Richardson, daughter of Joel F. and Martha M. Richardson. They are the

parents of three children: Mabel Claire, born April 23, 1892; Hazel Bell, born January 26, 1894, and Forrest Clyde, born June 20, 1897. After his marriage, Mr. Matteson lived on the home farm until 1898, when he moved to Black River Falls, Wis., and engaged in the livery business, which he followed for four years. Disposing of his interests here, he returned to Monroe county in 1902 and purchased a farm of 110 acres in the Leon valley, and has since made this his home. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stockraising and keeps his farm well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs; he operates an extensive dairy, the income from which amounts to about $1,200 per year. Since purchasing his present farm, he has made many improvements, erected a silo, separator house, etc. He is known as one of the progressive and public spirited citizens of his town, employs modern methods in his farming operations, and is president of the Leon Valley Creamery Association.

E. M. McCann, an extensive farmer and stock raiser of Monroe county, owns a farm in Wilton township, where he resides. He was born April 12, 1867, in the town of Wilton, the son of Patrick and Mary McCann, both natives of Ireland. Patrick came to America some time during the forties, and after stopping for a short time in New York, he moved to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he was married and lived for several years, then moved to Monroe county and bought 120 acres of wild land and set to work to establish a new home, and after passing through the usual hardships and privations of the early settler, he acquired a comfortable home, where he spent the remainder of his life and died in 1895. His widow is still (1912) living. They had a family of seven children, six of whom are living. They were members of the Catholic church, and Mr. McCann's political views were with the Democratic party.

Edward M., our subject, was the second youngest of the family and attended school until he was eighteen, living at home until he was married, October 12, 1892, in the town of Wilton, to Miss Mary Kerrigan, daughter of James and Margaret Kerrigan, and one of a family of five children, three of whom are living. They were also natives of Ireland and came to America some time in the fifties and settled in Walworth county, and later, in 1867, moved to Monroe county, where the father bought 120 acres of land in Ridgeville township and made their home for sixteen years; he then bought 160 acres in section twenty, township of Wilton, and was at the time of his death in 1905 an extensive

land owner. Her mother is still living at the age of seventy-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. McCann have had eight children, seven of whom are living, viz.: James, born April 27, 1894; Marie, born June 5, 1896; Cecilia, born December 12, 1900; Lucy, born April 12, 1902; Edward, born October 12, 1904; Mabel, born February 5, 1906, and Laurence, born August 13, 1910.

Mr. McCann is a successful general farmer and his home is ideal in every respect. He keeps the best grade of stock and makes a specialty of dairying with a herd of twenty-five Holstein cows. He is constantly improving his farm and remodeling his buildings; he built a new residence in 1906 and his outbuildings correspond. He is a public spirited man; was manager of the Farmers' Creamery Company, of Wilton, for ten years and was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Livestock Association, and is a member of the Catholic church and of the Catholic Order of Foresters.

John McCann* is one of the extensive land owners of Wilton township, and carries on the dairy business on a large scale. He owns seven forty-acre tracts in sections twenty, three and seventeen, and another twenty acres in section twenty. He was born November 17, 1858, in Walworth county, Wisconsin, the son of Patrick and Mary (Kerrigan) McCann, both natives of Ireland. He lived at home on the farm until he reached his majority, and attended school up to his twentieth year. After his school days were over, he worked as a farm hand on his own account for about two years, and then bought an eighty-acre tract in section twenty, Wilton township. He was married in Tomah, Monroe county, on April 9, 1891, to Miss Bridget Cummings, whose people also came from Ireland in an early day. She was the second of a family of four; her parents were prosperous farmers and highly respected; the father died in 1874 and the mother in 1900, both members of the Catholic church.

Mr. McCann is a successful general farmer and well liked by his neighbors. He is a Democrat in his politics, a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and both himself and wife are members of the Catholic church.

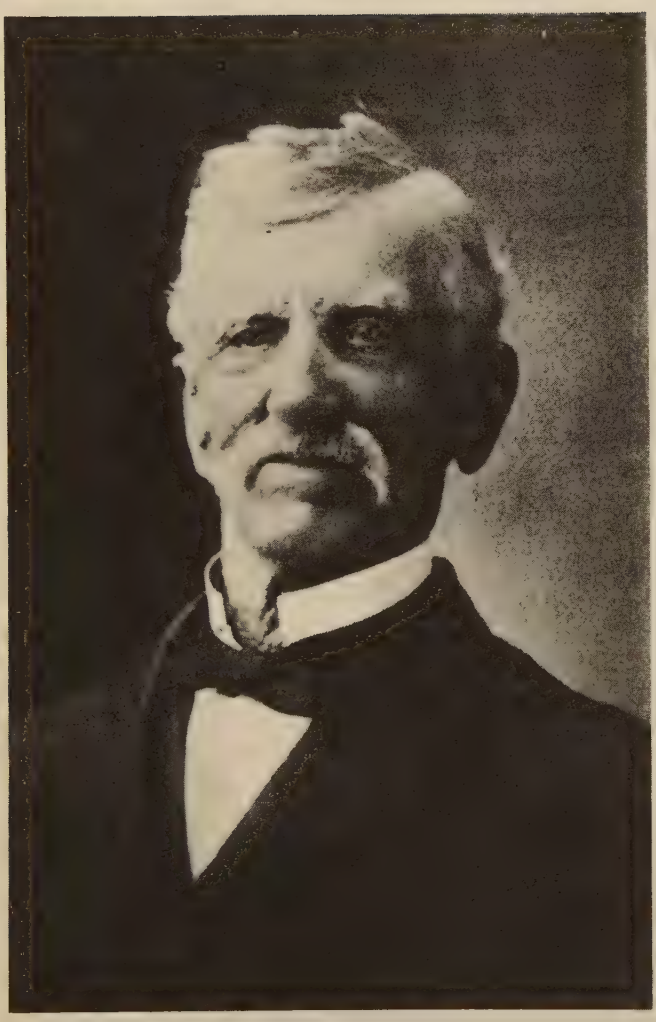
Thomas H. McConnell*, who is one of the prosperous farmers in LaGrange township, was born in Green county, Wisconsin, January 31, 1856. His parents were James and Mary (Dellears) McConnell, both natives of Wisconsin. When Thomas was nine years of age, his parents moved to Walworth county, where they made their home and spent their lives. The father died in 1909

at the age of eighty-one years, and the death of the mother occurred in 1901 at about sixty-eight years.

Thomas H. attended the district schools of his home town, and was employed at farm work, having been bound out until he reached the age of eighteen. He remained in Walworth county until he became of age, and then for a time resided in Green Valley. He then went to Dell Rapids in 1883, where he purchased a farm of 160 acres, built a residence and made other improvements. After residing here for nine years, he returned to Walworth county and purchased a fine farm of 160 acres, paying therefor $10,000. Here he remained for eleven years, and disposing of his interests, he, in 1903, moved to Monroe county and purchased his present farm of 160 acres, in section twenty-eight, LaGrange township, which he has since improved with modern buildings. He carries on general farming and the place is well stocked with high grade horses, hogs and a fine herd of full blooded Guernsey cattle. Mr. McConnell has a model home, which he has acquired through his thrift and good management, and is counted as one of the most substantial citizens of the county.

He was married in 1881 to Miss Clara E. Spensley, daughter of Robert and Eliza Spensley, of Walworth county, Wisconsin. They have three children, viz.: Robert E., at home; Charles H., a student in the University of Wisconsin, and Clifford R. McConnell.

Bruce E. McCoy is of Scotch ancestry and is proud of belonging to a race of pioneers. He was born in western New York in 1829, when the stage coach and canal were the only means of travel. His father, Jesse McCoy, in 1844, came with his family to Racine county, Wisconsin, via the Great Lakes from Monroe county, New York, and settled on the naked prairie, when the country was devoid of roads and bridges, farm buildings, school houses and the conveniences of civilization. It took four years of work in the woods in winter, prairie breaking in summer, house and barn building in the new home before the town of Mount Pleasant boasted of a schoolhouse, which was built mostly by private subscription. This school was built and conducted on the old plan of seats around the outside, teacher boarding around and parents furnishing wood and paying the teacher pro rata for their children. He became the first teacher at a salary of $10 per month, and for seven years continued to teach in winter and work on the farm in the summer. He was elected and served as town superintendent of school for three years. He helped in organizing the Racine County Agricultural Society and became its first sec-



BRUCE E. M'COY

retary. In 1864 he was elected chairman of his town upon war issues and immediately organized and was elected captain of company G, forty-third regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, infantry, being mustered at Milwaukee. He participated in the battles of Johnsonville and Nashville and later was detailed as judge advocate of a military commission, with headquarters at Murpheysborough, Tenn., and so continued until his regiment was mustered out at the close of the war.

On his return from the war he was married to Miss S. Allouva Bowker, daughter of Abram Bowker, also a pioneer settler, and due to ill health sold his farm and went into the milling business at Kenosha, Wis. In 1868, he, with W. L. Hughes, purchased the La Fayette mill at La Fayette, Monroe county, and continued its operation until it was washed away completely in the great flood of March 1876. During this time the pine forests in towns of La Fayette and Greenfield were being cut and the mill furnished the flour and feed for the Parmlee, Wilsonville, Tester and Bacon sawmills. He also furnished about 10,000 railroad ties and 5,000 cords of wood annually for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at La Fayette Station (since discontinued).

About 500 Winnebago Indians made their summer camping ground at La Fayette, and his business relations with them were always pleasant and no difficulties ever arose, nor did he ever loose any money by trusting them.

He was chairman of the town of La Fayette during five years of his eight years' residence there. He opposed the bonding of the town for $4,000 to secure the building of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway from Elroy to Sparta, and with others succeeded in cutting the bond issue to $2,000. He was the lone member of the county board of supervisors to oppose the selling of $31,000 of tax certificates to George Runkle for 10 cents on the dollar, and taking the brunt of the bitter grafting opposition, filed his written protest on behalf of the town of La Fayette, and eventually recovered from the county, for the town, the face value, dollar for dollar, of all La Fayette tax certificates so sold.

On the complete loss of his La Fayette mill in 1876 he bought the depot mill in Sparta, which was burned in January, 1878. He immediately rebuilt the present standing mill, which three years later he sold to Peter Miller, and later, with Lyman Newberry and others, joined in developing a silver mine in Colorado, in a new camp, to which, at that time, both the Rock Island and the Union Pacific railroads were extending their lines. Simultaneously both roads stopped their work and the camp was a failure.

Just before going "dead broke" he and Henry Foster and others took a hand in townsite building, went into North Dakota, took up homesteads on the banks of a fine lake, in what is now McIntosh county, then unsurveyed except into townships, and on a line of what they believed a railroad survey northwest from Aberdeen would take. They surveyed a village plat for a county seat, gave away lots to all who would build on them, had a nice country town, but when the looked-for railroad came the railway station was established four miles away, and the villagers moved their houses and the county seat over to it. About this time he bought the Sparta Democrat of B. W. Perry, and the Sparta Advertiser off F. A. Brown, and consolidated them into one plant. He was the editor and publisher of the Monroe County Democrat for ten years, advocating honesty in politics, as well as in personal matters. Individual, rather than class development in our schools, integrity rather than policy for success in every-day life, state rights as against a stronger central government, a broader patriotism as against the selfishness of partisanship and of secret societies.

After selling the Monroe County Democrat in 1895, he gave much of his time to the development of outlot 125, on which the Gillman mill stands, and other real estate transactions in Texas and Old Mexico.

He cast his first vote at the time the old Democratic party was selling our public domain at $1.25 per acre and was plotting to make slavery national instead of sectional. His vote was against both these, and he continued a loyal Republican up to the time it resumed specie payment, and later demonitized silver and began its crusade for a greater centralization of political power in the general government.

In 1881 he bought his present home, corner East Oak and East avenue, where his sons, Robert and Clark, grew to manhood, and from where he buried his wife in 1893, and his son, Clark, in 1907.

In 1910 the first large maneuver camp of 10,000 federal and state troops, under command of General Hodges, U. S. A., was stationed on the United States military reservation in the town of La Fayette and in his honor was named "Camp Bruce E. McCoy." In 1912 encampment was similarly so named, and both the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway and the Chicago & Northwestern Railway have named the railway station in La Fayette "McCoy."

The last seventeen years his home has been in the family of his son, Robert.

David G. McCray, who has lived in Monroe county for more than a half a century, is one of that class of sturdy, enterprising men who have not only witnessed, but have also had an important part in the work of transforming the county from a state of comparative wilderness to its present high place among the banner counties of the state. He was born in Warren county, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1833, the son of James and Clinda McCray. Mr. McCray came to Wisconsin in 1855 and first settled at Sandy Bay, Kewaunee county, and here remained until 1867, when he removed to Little Falls township, in Monroe county, and purchased 120 acres of wild land, which he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. Besides being engaged in general farming, he makes a specialty of fruit, and is the largest grower of apples and small fruits in the town of Little Falls. A Republican in political opinion, he takes an interest in the affairs of his party and while he has never sought political preferment, he has filled the office of school clerk for seventeen years.

Mr. McCray was united in marriage in 1857 with Miss Esther A. Lane, daughter of Daniel and Clara Lane, residents of Kewaunee. Of a family of eight children born to this union, four are now living: Edgar G., Reuben C., May M. and Martha E. McCray.

Eugene McGary, president of the village of Norwalk, and lifelong resident of Monroe county, was born in Ridgeville township, October 17, 1854, and is one of a family of six children born to Seluim and Elvira (Fox) McGary. Of their other children, Frances married Norman Record, of Sparta, Wis.; Isabelle is the wife of George Wood, of Baraboo, Wis.; Nora is the wife of John Kier, also resides at Baraboo; Josephine is the wife of W. B. Kendalls, and lives in Chicago, Ill., and Jessie is Mrs. B. L. Bond, of Elroy, Wis. Seluim McGary was the son of Thomas McGary, a native of Ireland, who came to Ohio in an early day and spent the remainder of his life; his son, Seluim, was born here. Seluim, with his wife, were among the early pioneers of Wisconsin, having settled in Oil City, in Monroe county, in the early forties, where he secured employment by the month in the lumber mill of the late Esau Johnson. After one year thus spent, he took up a Government claim of 160 acres of land in section twenty-eight, Ridgeville township, near where the village of Norwalk is now located and where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred July 17, 1910, in his eightieth year. The death of his

wife, mother of our subject, occurred February 4, 1908, at the age of seventy-five years. He was of that numerous class of sturdy men who were instrumental in bringing about the wonderful changes that have been wrought in transforming that part of Monroe county, Wisconsin, from a state of comparative wilderness to its present fruitful and fertile condition, as one of the garden spots of the state. Through his industry the farm was brought to a high state of cultivation, and with the fine improvements he made, was one of the model farms of the county. He was an influential citizen in the community, a man of intelligence who was in sympathy with, and ready to lend a helping hand in every worthy enterprise intended for the betterment of the community. During his active life he held several local offices, and when the village of Norwalk was incorporated he became its first president. The business life of Mr. McGary furnished a notable example of what may be accomplished by energy and resolution, when guided by honorable principles and aided by agreeable personal characteristics; he was in truth a successful business man, and his actions in all his transactions were marked by scrupulously fair dealing, frankness and kindness and faith in the better side of human nature. Of his two brothers, Thomas was a soldier in the Civil War, and was killed at the battle of Bull Run, and Henry died in 1898.

Eugene McGary was raised on his father's farm, and obtained his education in the public schools while assisting in the farm work. He has resided on the homestead all his life, and when his father became incapacitated and inactive he assumed full management, and at the death of his father inherited the farm. He carries on general farming and does considerable dairying, in which he is generally successful, and with his modern residence, which he erected in 1910, overlooking the village of Norwalk, commodious barns and outbuildings, his is one of the model, comfortable homes of the county. He takes a commendable interest in all public matters and has served as president of the village of Norwalk in all ten years; his last term of service extending continuously over a period of seven years. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

As a man, Mr. McGary is well thought of in the community; has always shown himself capable and trustworthy in any place he has been called to fill, and no man enjoys more public confidence and esteem.

On March 4, 1877, Mr. McGary was united in marriage with

Miss Lydia Sour, daughter of David Sour, one of the prominent and successful citizens of Cole's valley, Monroe county. They have an interesting family of five children, viz.: Mabel, Anna, Harold, Lester and Clayton McGary.

Lucien A. McWithey, son of Tilly Gilbert and Betsy Maria (Blyton) McWithey, was born November 9, 1831. Through his father and mother, he inherited the strong and independent characteristics of a Scotch-English race, from which his parents both descended. The McWithey and Blyton families were natives of Kentucky and Vermont respectively; the father, Tilly G., a farmer by occupation, and a son of Isaac McWithey, who came from Scotland, the land of his nativity, to New York, and subsequently moved to Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life. Tilly G. McWhithey was the fourth of a family of eight children. Ithimer, Stephen, Charles G., Tilly G., James, Jemimah, Sarah and Caroline. Betsey Maria Blyton McWhithey was the youngest of a family of eight children, viz: Polly, Christopher, William, Elijah, Russell, John, Thomas and Betsey Maria Blyton. Thomas Blyton, maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of England; he came to the state of New York early in the nineteenth century and was the father of John Blyton, the inventor. The wife of Thomas Blyton was Nellie Sharp, and the maiden name of the wife of Isaac McWithey was Katherine Sharp. Tilly G. McWithey was born March 19, 1800, and died October 27, 1878. He married Betsey Maria Blyton March 8, 1826. She was born September 17, 1812, and died November 1, 1894.

Mr. McWithey, the subject of this sketch, was the second child of a family of eight children born to his parents as follows: James D., born February 29, 1829, is deceased; Lucian A., born November 9, 1831; Thomas A., deceased, born January 10, 1834; Julia A., born February 11, 1836; Henry E., born August 6, 1838; Lucy A., born April 7, 1840; Elbert P., and Adelbert P., twins, born April 11, 1847. Mr. McWithey was united in marriage October 16, 1861, to Miss Ophelia Smith, of Sparta, daughter of John M. and Experience Forsythe Smith, natives of New Medford, Ct., and Owego, Tioga county, N. Y. Mrs. McWithey was born at Owego, and her mother was born on a farm near that place. John M. Smith was employed for many years as foreman in a carding mill; they later moved to Cattaraugus county, locating for a time at Farmersville. In 1855 they came to Wisconsin and were among the pioneers to take up land in Leon township, Monroe county, which they improved and brought to

a high state of cultivation, and here remained the balance of their lives. He was one of the successful and influential citizens of his township and passed away January 12, 1864, aged fifty-eight years. His widow, mother of Mrs. McWithey, who was a woman of many domestic virtues, survived until December 6, 1883, when she died at the age of seventy-seven years. They had a family of seven children, viz: William Henry, deceased; Freelove, deceased; Alva L.; John J.; Charles E.; Ophelia and Frank W., deceased. Alva L. and John J. Smith are residents of Farmer's valley, this county, and Charles E., resides at Bloomer, Chippewa county, Wis. The ancestors of the Smith family were of Welch origin; John Smith, father of John M. Smith and grandfather of Mrs. McWithey, was born April 5, 1773; His wife, grandmother of Mrs. McWithey, whose maiden name was Ophelia Smith, was born June 15, 1774. Their children were Anna, born May 10, 1775; Edward E., born March 27, 1797; Athalia, born November 18, 1798; Electa, born June 15, 1800; Asemath, born January 18, 1802; Thursa M., born December 26, 1803; John M., father of Mrs. McWithey, born December 28, 1805; Sylvia, born in December, 1807; Esther, born June 22, 1809; William H., born April 16, 1812, and Eliza, born July 24, 1815.

Elisha Forsythe, maternal grandfather of Mrs. McWithey was born September 10, 1773; his wife, whose maiden name was Freelove Parks, was born September 17, 1775. He was the son of Jonathan Forsythe, whose father was a full-blooded Scotchman and a native of Edinburgh. The children of Elisha and Freelove Park Forsythe were Katherine, born September 18, 1795; George, born July 2, 1798; Elisha, born February 14, 1801; Azar, born October 17, 1803; Experience, mother of Mrs. McWithey, born September 17, 1806; Gilbert, born October 4, 1808, and Eldridge, born August 5, 1812. Mr. and Mrs. McWithey had one daughter, a young lady of much promise, born August 14, 1867, and who died October 12, 1887.

Lucian A. McWithey was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the district schools. After leaving home, his first employment was that of clerk in a hotel. On October 7, 1861, he enlisted in company A, third Wisconsin Cavalry, and served as corporal for nearly three years. His regiment was detailed for frontier service and engaged in bushwhacking on the border line of Missouri, Kansas, Indian Territory and later Arkansas. Returning to Kansas, he was located at Fort Scott, Fort Leavenworth and Troy. During his service his eyesight became impaired

from the effects of dust encountered on the frontier, from which his sight has never fully recovered. After his discharge in 1864, he returned home, and for some time was totally blind. After receiving expert treatment at Milwaukee, which partially restored his vision, he returned to Sparta, and for some years was engaged in distributing wheat and flour with his fine team of horses for the Angelo mill, until this mill was destroyed by fire, and after it was rebuilt, and until the second mill was burned; he then with the aid of his wife and daughter, opened a variety store in the city of Sparta. He first came to Wisconsin with his father and family in 1849 and located in Dane county, but soon thereafter returned to his native state. In 1858 he again came to Wisconsin and settled at Sparta, which has since been his home. He states that in 1851 Sparta had but a single log house which stood where the public library now stands. He with his estimable wife, are members of the First Congregational church. He is a member of the John W. Lynn Post, G. A. R., while she is a member of the W. C. T. U., Congregational Missionary Society, and the Ladies Auxiliary G. A. R., and the Happy Ten.

On October 16, 1911, Mr. and Mrs. McWithey celebrated their golden wedding, and entertained 100 guests during the day and evening. They were remarried by Rev. Harding R. Hogan at 2:30 p. m., under practically the same weather conditions as those of fifty years before. Among the presents was a gold-headed cane to Mr. McWithey from the John W. Linn Post, G. A. R.

B. W. Mee, who now owns 240 acres of choice valley land in section twenty-five, township seventeen, one west, has been for years one of the most extensive real estate owners in Monroe county, where he was born November 7, 1864, the son of Benjamin and Margret Mee, natives of England and Scotland. They came to America in 1845, and first located in Racine county, but during the year 1855 moved to Monroe county and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Tomah, now a part of our subject's present farm, and here passed their lives. The father died in 1882. He was a tailor by trade, and as a pioneer, experienced the ups and downs of those days, and after struggling the while through hard work and perseverance, he acquired sufficient means to make their last days comfortable and enjoyed the highest esteem of their neighbors. Mrs. Mee was born in St. Andrews, County Fife, Scotland, in June, 1826, and died at her home in Tomah on March 15, 1910. Mr. Mee was a Republican in politics and served as justice of the peace for many years in Tomah. They were devoted members of the Methodist church.

B. W. attended the common schools of his neighborhood up to his fifteenth year, lived at home and worked on the farm. His father died when he was seventeen years of age, and on Christmas day, in 1888, he was married to Miss Emma Roeder, daughter of August and Elizabeth Roeder, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1858 and settled in Tomah, where the father died in 1893 and the mother still lives at the age of sixty-eight. Mr. and Mrs. Mee have had three children, two of whom are living: Archie, born April 9, 1890, and Luella, born January 17, 1902.

Their farm is equipped with the best grade of horses, cattle and hogs, and in connection with his general farming, Mr. Mee makes a specialty of dairying. He was formerly president of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Company for four years and was its secretary and treasurer for some time. He is a Republican in politics.

Oluf C. Melgard, manufacturer and dealer in marble and granite monuments at Cashton, Monroe county, Wis., was born in Coon valley, Vernon county, March 12, 1860, and is the second child in order of birth of a family of nine children, six of whom are now (1912) living, born to Carl and Bertha (Knudson) Melgard. The father, Carl Melgard, emigrated from Norway to America in 1850, and located in Coon Prairie, Vernon county, when approaching middle age, and found employment as a farm laborer, which occupation he followed some five years. In 1855 he married and purchased a tract of forty acres in Vernon county. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker by trade and in a small way was engaged in making furniture at his home seven miles from Cashton, where he lived for forty years. At the age of seventy-eight years, he became an invalid, and in 1893 moved to the village of Cashton. He was born on May 18, 1822, and died at Cashton in 1907. He possessed a good education and excellent business judgment; a man of prominence and influence in his community and his advice on business matters being often sought by the early Norwegian settlers. His wife, mother of our subject, was also born in Norway, in 1831, and is still (1912) living at an advanced age. Both she and her husband were members of the Coon Valley Lutheran church, of which he was trustee.

Oluf C. received his education in the common schools of Vernon county, and at the age of twenty years, came to Sparta and served an apprenticeship for two years at the marble business. He then moved to La Crosse, where he was employed for two years in the leading marble shop of the city. On December 5,

1885, he came to the village of Cashton and embarked in the marble business on his own account, starting in a small way with only about one dozen small slab stones. His business has grown to large proportions. Mr. Melgard inherits his father's business acumen, and by close attention and good management, he has established and built up a monument business second to none in western Wisconsin. The best quality of Wausau and red granite obtained from the granite quarries in Minnesota, also Vermont granite, is used in his work, and the trade extends over a large area of Wisconsin and other states, all operations being carried on under the name of O. C. Melgard. Besides the home business at Cashton, branch houses have been established in other places; the one at Sparta, opened under the management of Carl Melgard, employs three skilled workmen and three traveling salesmen, while the one at Galesville, established four years ago, is doing an extensive business under the management of Hans Twesme. Mr. Melgard is one of the solid men of Cashton, and is popular alike in business and social circles. In politics he adheres to the principles of the Republican party, and fraternally belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, while religiously he and his estimable wife are members of the Lutheran church. In addition to his marble business, Mr. Melgard owns a choice forty acre tract two miles from Cashton, while his home is one of the most modern and commodious in the village of Cashton. In January, 1884, Mr. Melgard was married at La Crosse to Miss Amelia Larson, daughter of Gilbert and Caroline Larson, who also came from Norway and settled at Cashton. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Melgard, viz: Eilert, born December 5, 1885; Carl, born March 11, 1888; Herbert, born June 3, 1890; Anna, born January 3, 1892; Oscar, born August 4, 1894; Ida, born December 24, 1895; Rosa, born May 30, 1899; Howard, born January 13, 1903, and Nina, born October 2, 1906.

Emil Mickelson, who resides on section twenty-six, Leon township, was born in the town of Leon, Monroe county, on May 5, 1874. His parents were Louis and Martha (Gilbertson) Mickelson, both natives of Norway. The father emigrated to America in the fifties and located in Cannon valley, Monroe county, where he homesteaded eighty acres of government land in section twenty-six, Leon township. After a residence of one year there, he married and continued to make that his home. He was energetic and thrifty, and as a result of overwork, he suffered a sunstroke in 1874, from which he never recovered, and passed away in 1884. They were the parents of four children,

three of whom are now living. The mother now, in 1912, resides in Minnesota at the age of fifty-four years. The father was a great Bible student and a member of the Lutheran church.

Emil received a rather limited education in the district schools, assisting with the work on the farm. He was married December 17, 1896, in Leon to Miss Dora Brooks, daughter of F. L. Brooks, who was born in 1850. He was twice married, first to Miss Alice Waters, by whom he had three children, two of whom, Dora, wife of our subject, and Clifford Brooks, are now living. The mother died August 10, 1897, and he was married for the second time to Mis Ida Alga. To this union was born six children, five of whom are now (1912) living, viz: Hattie, born August 10, 1886; Howard, born October 31, 1888; Jessie, born February 29, 1892; Myrtle, born August 18, 1895, and Eva, born July 26, 1898. The father now resides in South Dakota. Seth Brooks, grandfather of Mrs. Mickelson, came from New York state in an early day and settled in the Cannon valley, where he died in 1867. To Mr. and Mrs. Mickelson have been born three children, two of whom, Louisa, born January 31, 1904, and Leslie, born August 13, 1907, are living. In 1901 Mr. Mickelson purchased his present farm of 166 acres in section twenty-six, Leon township, where he has since made his home engaged in general farming and dairying, and is counted among the thrifty and progressive farmers of Cannon valley.

Peter E. Mitby is another one of Cashton's representative business men, a native of Norway; he was born at Toten, March 20, 1858, and came to the United State, landing in New York September 3, 1880. He then set out for the west and came direct to Cashton, where he was employed in various lines of industry for five years. By hard work and strict economy, he saved his earnings and embarked in the saloon business in 1886, and simultaneously began the buying and selling of grain. In that year he erected the building in which his saloon was located, and in 1888 built his grain elevator and in 1889 erected his modern residence, and still later constructed the building now occupied as a restaurant, and in 1897 erected a new grain elevator which he has since owned and operated. On December 5, 1886, Mr. Mitby was united in marriage with Miss Petrina Fremstad, who was born in Vernon county. They have an interesting family of four children, viz: Edna, Lillian, Myrtle and Chester.

In addition to his business and property holdings in Cashton, Mr. Mitby owns a farm of sixty acres just over the line in Vernon county, and owns one-half interest in the Hotel Lewis at Sparta,

and is a stockholder and director in the Cashton bank. A Republican in politics, he is active in the councils of his party and all matters pertaining to the betterment of the community receive his hearty support. He is a high minded, public spirited man, surrounded by a wide circle of friends who regard him as one of the prosperous and influential business men of the county. In religious faith he is a member of the Lutheran church.

George J. Moen, son of one of the early and prosperous farmers of Portland township, was born here on June 19, 1874. His father was Bernt Johnson Moen, a native of Norway, who came to America in 1869 and first located in Sparta; he was born February 23, 1842, and passed away on March 12, 1909. Mrs. Moen, our subject's mother, was Miss Carrie Gustava Rognstad, born April 12, 1847, and they were married on July 16, 1872, the same year she came to America. For several years Mr. Moen worked at various occupations, and by close application, economy and thrift, he saved enough to purchase a tract of forty acres of practically wild land, which he cultivated and soon brought to a high state of cultivation, and purchasing additional land from time to time, until at his death he owned 100 acres of fine land near the village of Cashton. Their family was small, our subject and Jorgen A. being the only children. They were members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Moen was always an active worker in the Republican ranks, ready at all times to give his aid towards the best interests of his fellowmen, and his death was mourned as a loss to his community.

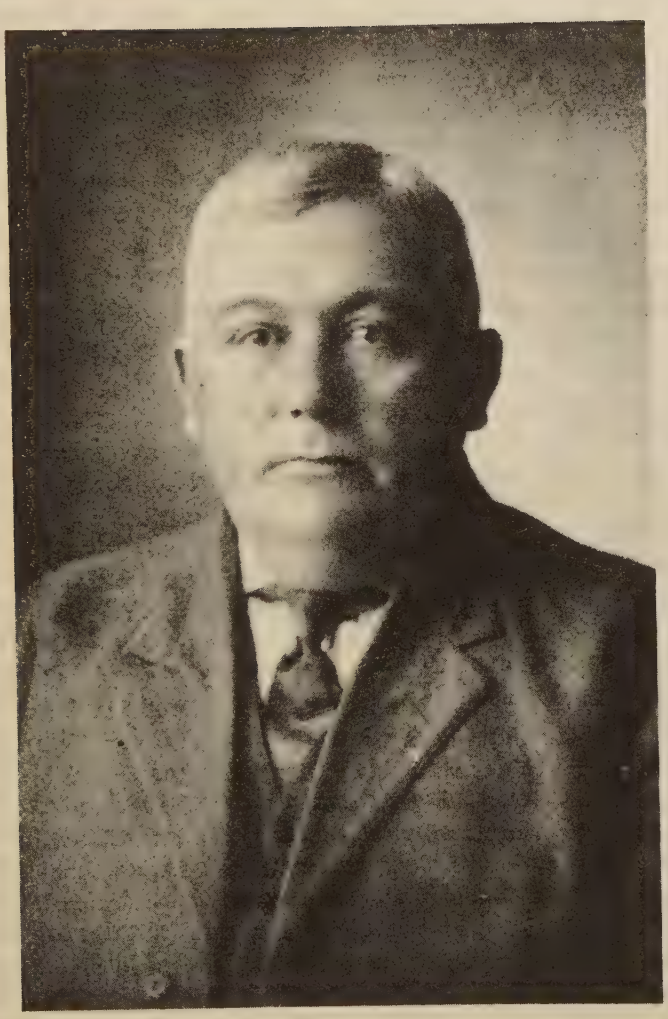
George J. obtained his early education in the public schools of his township and later graduated from the high school at Viroqua with the class of 1896. He then followed the vocation of teaching for some eight years near Viroqua, after which he accepted a position with the Brown Music Company, of that place, remaining there until the death of his father; he then took up the management of the home farm, where he has since lived with his mother. Has been organist and choir leader of the Immanuel Lutheran church since 1890.

His brother, Jorgen, was born December 11, 1877, after receiving his preliminary education in the public schools, took a one-year course at the St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minn., and from there he went to the Valparaiso University and spent two years in the law department. Spent one year at the law department of Northwestern University of Chicago. He was admitted to the bar in 1904 and is now located in Viroqua, conducting a successful law practice under the firm name of Smith & Moen.

John Mohring*, one of the substantial and progressive farmers of La Fayette township, was born in Germany, May 24, 1862, the son of Fred and Sophia Mohring, both of whom spent their lives in Germany. The mother died when John was six years of age. He is one of a family of three children, as follows: Mary is the wife of H. Leeler, and resides at Hammond Point, N. Y.; John, the subject of this sketch, and Sophia. John attended the common schools of his native country, and at the age of sixteen began to make his own way in the world. His first employment was at farming in the fatherland, his duties consisting of stock feeding and teaming. At the age of twenty-four he came to the United States, and upon his arrival in this country, he located at Berry Mills, La Crosse county, Wis., where he remained for twenty years. He then moved to Monroe county and purchased his present farm of 220 acres, in section seventeen, La Fayette township. He has improved his place with substantial buildings, and has brought his land to a high state of cultivation. He is engaged in general farming, stock raising and dairying, and in addition to operating his own farm, he rents 237 acres, which he carries on in addition to his own; and in his operations he employs modern and up-to-date methods, and his nicely located farm is well stocked with a good grade of horses, Durham cattle, sheep and Poland-China hogs.

In June, 1886, Mr. Mohring was married to Miss Mary Plate, daughter of Dedrick Plate, of Germany. To this union have been born the following children: Mary is the wife of William Miller, of La Fayette; Dora is the wife of Will Kenyon, of La Crosse; William, Henry, Erne, John and Ora, all at home. In religious matters, Mr. and Mrs. Mohring, with their family, worship at the German Lutheran church at Sparta.

Fred J. Mooney, superintendent of the Monroe County Insane Asylum and Poor Farm, is a product of Wisconsin, having been born at Tomah, June 10, 1867. His parents, Edward and Ann (Fuller) Mooney, were natives of New York state, and early in 1865 they came to Wisconsin and settled at Tomah. He followed the occupation of millwright and head sawer in the mill, and in 1871 turned his attention to farming at a settlement called Limerick. He was a successful, high minded, public spirited gentleman, and took an active interest in the affairs of the county. He served as chairman of the Tomah township board for five years, and in politics was a Democrat. While a resident of Cole's valley he was appointed superintendent of the poor, a position he filled from 1881 to 1888. He later retired from active



FRED J. MOONEY

duties, and made his home at Tomah, where he died in 1896 at the age of sixty-four years. His widow and our subject alone survive. Fred Mooney had one brother, Frank, and a sister, Gertrude by name, both of whom were older than he, and are both deceased. Ambros Fuller, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was at one time keeper of the New York State Prison at Auburn. The Mooney family came originally from Ireland, while the Fullers were from New York state.

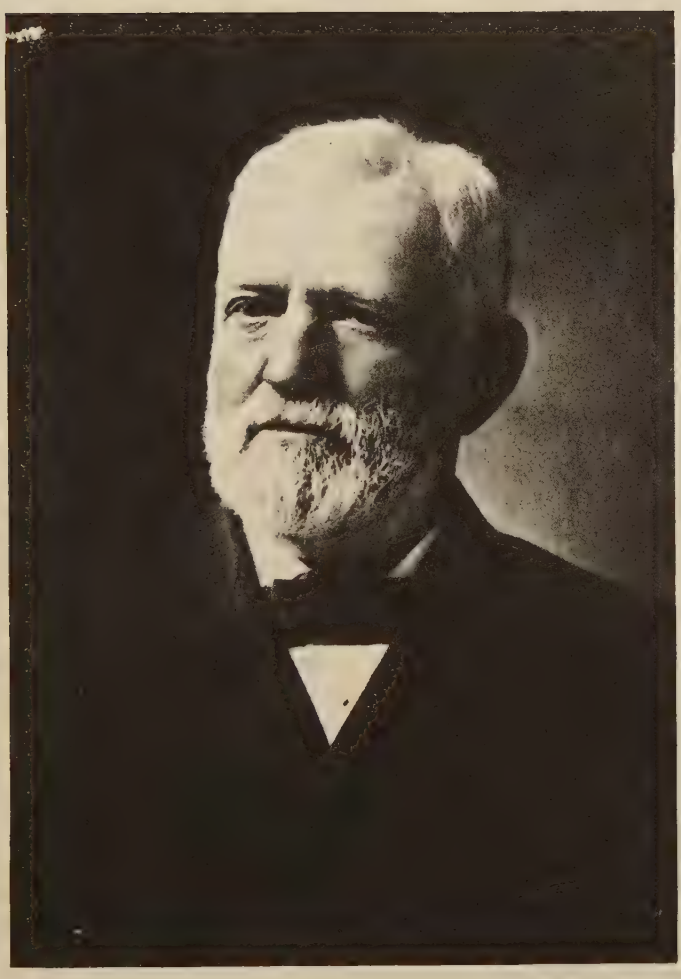
Mr. Fred Mooney was raised on his father's farm and received his education in the public schools of Tomah. He went to the city of Chicago, where he was engaged in the milk business from 1892 to 1897. At the end of that time he returned to Tomah and engaged in the grocery trade until 1903, when he retired from business, and was soon thereafter appointed overseer of the poor, under Superintendent C. B. Chamberlain, and held that position for a period of fourteen months, when he was appointed superintendent of the Monroe County Insane Asylum and Poor Farm in 1904, and has been reappointed each year since, and is now serving his ninth term, which is sufficient evidence of his fitness for the position. The farm originally contained but 160 acres, but in 1909 an additional 120 acres was purchased, making the county farm now 280 acres, with the finest water system of any institution in the state. Under Mr. Mooney's careful management this institution has been made self-sustaining, and for the first time during its existence, the year 1911 showed a balance in the treasury from the proceeds of the farm amounting to $2,300. A complete chapter showing the progress of the institution under Mr. Mooney's incumbency, will be found elsewhere in this work. It is but fitting to say, that Mr. Mooney, while occupying a position of prominence in the county, is possessed of a cheerful disposition, is broad minded and liberal in his views, and these traits have endeared him to those with whom he has come in contact. His splendid record as the head of the greatest institution in the county, aside from all other considerations, will cause him to long be remembered as one of the most useful citizens of Monroe county.

On November 3, 1889, Mr. Mooney was united in marriage with Miss Ella P. Hill, daughter of Oliver M. and Sophia (Sprague) Hill, of Tomah. Mr. Hill was for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits in Tomah township, and was one of the most prominent and representative citizens of the county. He held the office of trustee and chairman of the township board, was treasurer of this town and for several years was president of the

Monroe County Agricultural Society. He was born in Cortland county, New York, April 14, 1837, and died July 12, 1911, at the age of seventy-four years. Mrs. Hill, mother of Mrs. Mooney, whose maiden name was Sophia M. Sprague, lived to the age of seventy years and died October 18, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Hill were both natives of New York state, and resided on the same farm in Tomah township for forty-three years. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Mooney were Samuel and Rebecca (Mason) Hill, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. The Mason family were among the early pioneers of New England, while Grandfather Hill was a veteran of the War of 1812. They came early to Illinois and settled near Elgin, and in the sixties came to Wisconsin. He died March 12, 1870, aged seventy-six years. His widow survived until 1883, when she passed away at the age of eighty-three years.

Samuel Sprague, maternal grandfather of Mrs. Mooney, was also a native of New England, and died in 1844. His wife, Rachael Sprague, died in 1893 at the age of ninety-one years.

Leonard C. Morse, who passed away January 12, 1909, was a leading and central figure in the business and social activities of the city of Sparta, and one of the representative and progressive men of Monroe county. He was one of a family of six children and was born in Hanover, N. H., December 8, 1832. He came west first to Ohio, where he taught school in Bloomington for about two years, and later came to Wisconsin, arriving at Sparta in 1854. Of his early business ventures here, the one most conspicuously remembered, is his association with the Letson Brothers in the sash and door factory, now owned by J. W. Evans. He was a young man then, strong, alert and vigorous, and early in the sixties he turned again to the west and pushed out into far Idaho, engaging in mining, then in stock raising along with a partner. In this business he achieved success, and though he and his associates sustained great losses by prodigious storms, in which most of their cattle perished, they eventually came out with considerable money. He was some thirteen years in this occupation, with headquarters at Salmon City, Idaho. In the spring of 1884 he sold out to his partner and returned to Sparta. Here he purchased the estate then called the Steere farm, just northwest of the city, and built up the Chalange Stock Farm, as he named it, making it the pioneer and leading dairy and stock farm of Monroe county. He chose the Holstein-Friesian breed of dairy cattle and developed a herd second to very few, if any, in Wisconsin. It was his pride and ambition to have the best, and he



LEONARD C. MORSE

realized it to a marked degree. Mr. Morse was twice married, in 1861 to Alvira Crosby, who died two years later, they having no children; on November 25, 1884, he was again married to Miss Mary Carmichael, daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Brower) Carmichael, natives of Brodalbin, N. Y. He was a farmer by occupation, and in 1856 came west to Sparta, where both father and mother died. Mrs. Morse had one brother, William H. Carmichael, who died near Chattanooga, Tenn., during the Civil War. He was postmaster for his regiment, and died from an accident received on the cars. The Carmichaels were of Scotch ancestry, while the Browers were of Holland descent. Mrs. Morse has resided on her present farm since the fall of 1884. During her early life she taught school near Cateract, in Monroe county, and was engaged in this work at the time of the big Indian scare. She also taught at Tomah and Leon. She was employed in the office of register of deeds in Monroe county, under M. A. Thayer, in the old courthouse, and held that position for thirteen years. She was afterward employed at clerical work in the office of Tyler & Dickinson for six years. She is a charater member of the Good Templars lodge at Sparta, and the Eastern Star. She was a devoted wife and a worthy companion and helpmeet of her noble husband, and is universally loved and honored for her noble womanly qualities of mind and heart.

Mr. Morse's kindly and genial temperment made him friends with all, and he had the public spirit and enterprise which gave him leadership in all circles and activities in which he engaged. He was a loyal Mason, a charter member of Valley Lodge and a prominent member of all four of the Masonic bodies of this city—Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Eastern Star. Though not a church member, he was identified with the Congregational church in work and spirit, and ever its loyal and generous supporter. He was an enthusiast in music, and a staunch member and at one time president of the Crescent Glee Club.

The largely attended funeral services were held at his late residence Friday, January 15, 1909, Rev. Pugh conducting the service of the Congregational church, and the Masonic burial service in charge of Valley Lodge, No. 60. Interment being made in Woodlawn cemetery.

James H. Morton, a progressive farmer of Wellington township, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, son of James H. and Alice Morton, both natives of Canada. In 1869 our subject came to the United States, and for one winter worked in the lumber woods near Grand Rapids, Wis. He then went to Merrill,

this state, and was employed eight years in the woods, and was considered an export at logging. He came to Monroe county in 1892, and on September 26 of that year was married at Wilton to Miss Margaret Welch, daughter of Patrick Welch, an influential citizen of that town. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Morton, three of whom are now living, viz.: William P., born April 15, 1896; Bernard E., born November 16, 1902, and Lizzie, born September 2, 1904.

In the year 1900 Mr. Morton purchased 120 acres of land in section eight, town of Wellington, and has since been successfully engaged in general farming and dairying. Since purchasing his farm he has added many improvements; he built a large and commodious barn in 1907, and has improved his residence and brought the land to a higher state of cultivation. He keeps his place well equipped with modern labor saving machinery and well stocked with a good grade of horses and cattle. In politics Mr. Morton is a progressive Republican and takes an active interest in the affairs of the party.

Arthur G. Moseley, one of the substantial and influential farmers of New Lyme township, Monroe county, was born in Sparta on what is now known as the county poor farm or alms house, September 17, 1864. His parents, Alonzo and Eunice (Hunt) Moseley were natives of Franklinville, Cattaraugus county, N. Y. They were married March 26, 1850, and came to Monroe county in 1852, locating in Sparta when it was a log hut village, where they lived for two years until they got a log house built and land cleared and broken, upon which to raise some crops, the father teaming and hauling merchandise in the meantime. The parents sold the farm to Peter Webster in April, 1867, and moved to Sparta, where they lived until the fall of 1873, when they bought a farm in the Hill settlement in New Lyme township, where the father died on December 4, 1892. The mother, Mrs. Eunice (Hunt) Moseley is now, August 24, 1912, still living and enjoys excellent health at the age of eighty-one years, having lived in Monroe county over sixty years, longer than any other woman now living in this county.

Arthur G. was educated in the district schools and has spent his entire life on the homestead farm of 560 acres, which he now owns. He is one of the successful, public spirited men of his township, every ready to lend a helping hand to every worthy cause for the interest or betterment of his town and county. He was married on January 5, 1893, to Miss Myrtle Parmenter, daughter of Ethan and Eva (Phelps) Parmenter, of La Crosse

county. They have been blessed with nine children, viz.: Eunice, born December 4, 1893; Jennie M., born November 14, 1895; Gladys, born January 17, 1898; Nina J., born April 29, 1900; Emma, born January 4, 1902; Rose L., born June 11, 1904; Lila C., born June 14, 1906; John H., born June 8, 1908, and Helen K., born August 4, 1911.

Winand Mullenberg, a successful German farmer of Jefferson township, Monroe county, was born in Stommel, Germany, on November 30, 1857, the son of Benedict and Anna Mary (Schmitz) Mullenberg, who came with him to America in 1861, when Winand was four years of age, and settled on a farm in Jefferson township. The father was born in 1829 and died in 1910; the mother was born in 1828 and died in 1890.

Benedict Mullenberg worked for a time as a farm laborer during and after his school days, and then purchased a forty-acre tract of wild land to which he added from time to time until at the time of his death he owned about 160 acres, which by hard work and perseverance, he subdued and converted into a highly productive and valuable farm. They were members of the St. Mary's Catholic church and well respected in their neighborhood.

Winand attended the public and parochial schools until he was sixteen and obtained a good education. He worked on a farm and was steady and economical; on June 26, 1883, he was married to Miss Mary Kreuser, daughter of Theodore and Margaret Kreuser, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Mullenberg have had six children, viz: Benedict, Theodore, Anna, Katie, John and Lizzie. Mrs. Mullenberg died on February 12, 1898, and two years later, in May, Mr. Mullenberg was married in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, to Miss Susie Andres, and they have had three children, Matt, Margaret and Mary.

After his first marriage, Mr. Mullenberg bought 160 acres of land in Jefferson township, and later added to this until he now owns about 350 acres. He keeps it well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle, hogs, etc., and uses the latest methods in conducting it. He is a public spirited man and always ready to assist in furthering the development of his town and county. He served eleven terms as assessor for Jefferson township and also as supervisor. He has been president of the Farmers' German Mutual Fire Insurance Company since 1898, with head offices in Norwalk, and is a Democrat in his politics.

Dennis M. Murphy*, who resides in Lyons valley, Wells township, Monroe county, was born in the town of Wells, April 24, 1880, and is the youngest of a family of nine children—eight

of whom are living, born to John and Julia (Burke) Murphy, both natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1854, and in 1855 located in Lyons valley, Monroe county, where he homesteaded 120 acres of land in section twenty-one, Wells township. Here he established the family home and successfully engaged in general farming, and at the time of his death, in 1896, owned a farm of 200 acres. He was thrifty and enterprising and was well thought of in his community. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religious faith himself and Mrs. Murphy were members of the Catholic church. His wife, mother of our subject, was a lady of many domestic virtues and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of her friends and neighbors. Her death occurred in 1884.

Dennis M. spent his boyhood on the home farm and received his preliminary education in the district schools, which was supplemented with a three years' course at the Tomah high school. After completing his education, he taught two years in Sheldon and Wells townships, then purchased a half interest in 200 acres of land in sections sixteen and twenty-one, Wells township, and still later purchased a farm of 182 acres, twenty-five acres of which are in Leon township and the balance in Wells. He is a prosperous general farmer and one of the progressive citizens of the town. He takes a keen interest in all public matters and any movement for the betterment of his town and county receives his support. In politics he believes in the principles of the Democratic party, and since 1911 has been clerk of his town. He being still unmarried, makes his home with a brother in Lyons valley.

Anton Nelson resides in section twenty, Greenfield township, successfully engaged in farming. He was born September 22, 1849, in Denmark, and is the son of Nels and Dorothy Nelson, both natives of Denmark. His father was a farmer by occupation and a mason by trade in his native country, where they spent their lives.

Anton is the second child of a family of two sons and two daughters. He attended the common schools of his native land during his boyhood and served the usual period in the Danish army, but the opportunities for advancement there seemed limited for one of his ambitious temperament and he decided to come to America, landing here in the spring of 1881. He came direct to Tomah where he immediately secured employment with the Goodyear Company in a sawmill, which lasted for four years, after which he was likewise employed at Waterbury; he then returned to Tomah and was employed for four years in the car

shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, and at the end of this time, in 1890, he purchased his present farm of 160 acres of wild land, for which he paid $800. At that time no cultivating had been done and very little of the land had been cleared, and by constant hard work and persistent efforts, he succeeded in transforming what was a wilderness into one of the most productive farms of that section; he erected a comfortable residence, a fine barn and made other improvements, and besides carrying on general farming, he makes a specialty of raising Holstein cattle. He is alive to the issues of the day and is deeply interested in the affairs of his town and county, and for seventeen years past has been a member of the school board.

In April, 1882, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Minnie Hastrup, a native of Germany. They have three children, viz: Anna, who lives in Arizona; Minnie is the wife of Amil Pokrand, of Angelo, and Sarah, who lives at home.

J——— C. Nelson is another one of the enterprising farmers of Monroe county, a native of Wisconsin, was born at Omro, on April 28, 1851, the son of John and Diena (Mendel) Nelson, natives of New York and Canada respectively. John Nelson, father of our subject, moved from the Empire state to Watertown, Wis., in 18—. After remaining here for a time, he, in 1855 moved to Monroe county with his family and settled at Jacksonville, where he engaged in the milling business, operating a grist mill for some three years. He then turned his attention to farming on a piece of rented land, and soon afterward purchased a sixty-acre tract, where the family made their home for fifteen years. Disposing of this farm, he purchased forty acres in Adrian township and there lived until his death, which occurred in 1896. He was a thrifty, hard-working man and upright citizen, and no one stood higher in his community than he. In political sentiment a Republican, he held numerous local offices. He served as town clerk for two years and was also treasurer of his township, and for many years was a member of the school board, and for three years justice of the peace. His wife, mother of our subject, was a woman of many domestic virtues and whose fine mental endowments made her a favorite among her large circle of friends. She died in 1875.

J——— C. Nelson attended the district schools until he was eighteen years of age and worked on a farm until his marriage, October 18, 1873, at Tomah, to Miss Alma Durhee, daughter of Andrew and Emeline Durhee, one of Monroe county's most respected pioneer families, they having come to Wisconsin as

early as 1856. Two children, Lefa and Burr, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Nelson purchased eighty acres of land from his father-in-law, which he has since added to until now he owns 120 acres of choice land, well improved with a commodious dwelling and outbuildings. His barn, 30 by 67 feet, with a wing 16 by 60 feet, has a capacity of seventy tons of hay, seven horses and forty head of cattle, and is considered among the best in the county. He carries on general farming, dairying and stock raising and is a public spirited, successful and enterprising citizen, extremely popular with his large circle of friends in the county.

Peter E. Nelson, ex-mayor and successful business man of Cashton, and a highly esteemed citizen of Monroe county, was born in Norway September 23, 1856. He remained with his parents until his sixteenth year, obtaining his preliminary education in the schools of his native home, and being enthused with the glowing accounts of the possibilities for young men in America, he turned towards the land of the setting sun and arrived in the United States June 16, 1873, and went direct to La Crosse, Wis. After remaining there for a short time, he moved to Chaseburg, in Vernon county, and for the next three years attended school during the winter months and worked during the summer in the store of J. W. Hoyt. In 1876 he returned to La Crosse and entered the Wallace Business College, taking a commercial course of one year, upon the completion of which he went to Viroqua and entered the mercantile establishment of J. Henry Tate as clerk, where he received a thorough knowledge of the business. He was thrifty and economical in his habits, and with the money saved from his earnings, he, in 1879, went to Cashton and opened a general store on his own account, which he successfully managed until 1883, when a Mr. Campbell purchased an interest and the firm name became Nelson & Campbell. The business was carried on under this arrangement until 1904, when Mr. Nelson sold his remaining interest to his partner and retired from the business. During the year 1899 to meet the demands of their constantly increasing trade, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Campbell built a modern two-story brick store building in which their business was carried on.

Politically Mr. Nelson is a Republican and takes an active interest in the affairs of his party. In the fall of 1905 he was appointed by President Roosevelt postmaster of Cashton, succeeding Mr. Barth, and at this time (1912) is still holding that position.

Mr. Nelson was united in marriage January 1, 1881, with Miss Caroline Johnson, who was born in Wisconsin of Norwegian parents. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside in their modern home, which they built in 1884. They are both devoted members of the United Lutheran church and contribute liberally to its support. Mr. Nelson stands high with the citizens of Monroe county, and his excellent judgment has given him the well deserved position of confidence in the council of business men, while in the community in which he dwells no man commands higher esteem.

George M. Newton, member of the firm of O. I. Newton's Sons' Company, of Sparta, was born here on August 21, 1870, the son of Orin I. and Emma H. (Mather) Newton. His father, who was a native of Vermont state, came to Monroe county in 1859, when he was seventeen years of age, and early became identified with the paper manufacturing interests throughout the state, and he established the Sparta paper mills, which was a flourishing industry for many years. He also became largely interested in the lumber trade, and was considered one of the most enterprising and prosperous citizens that Sparta ever had. His death, which occurred in 1895, while yet a comparatively young man, his age being but fifty-three, was mourned by the people of his community as a public loss. His wife, the mother of our subject, was a woman of noble Christian character and domestic virtues, being a descendant in a direct line of the renowned Cotton Mather. Her death occurred at her home in Sparta in 1872.

George M. received his education in the schools of Sparta and at the Wisconsin State University at Madison, graduating with the class in engineering of 1894. He early became associated with his father in the Sparta paper mills, and in 1893 the firm became known as the O. I. Newton's Son's Company. This industry continued until 1901, and during the latter years of its existence was under the personal management of Mr. Newton. The firm name of O. I. Newton's Sons' Company is still continued in other lines of business, however, and since 1901 Mr. Newton has been manager of the Electric Light & Power Company, with two plants in Sparta and one at Angelo. Mr. Newton stands high in social circles of Sparta, and is a member of the Masonic order, a Knight Templar, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a man who enjoys the confidence and esteem of a wide circle of friends, both in a business way and socially. He was married in October, 1895, to Miss May Sage, daughter of Mr. E. E. Sage, Sioux Falls, S. D.

Harry M. Newton, vice president of the Citizens' State Bank of Sparta, a native of this city, was born May 23, 1868. His parents were Orin I. and Emma H. (Mather) Newton, whose biographies appear elsewhere in this work. Raised in Sparta, he attended the public schools and high school. After this he entered the Wayland Academy, from which he graduated four years later with the class of 1890, and immediately thereafter entered the employ of his father in the clerical department of the O. I. Newton paper mill, and after serving in this position for four years, he became a partner in the business and the firm name changed to O. I. Newton's Sons' Company, at which time, in 1894, he was made president of the company and thus continued until the plant was destroyed by fire in 1901. The company had taken over and consolidated the paper industry, the electric lighting plant, the flour and feed mill at Angelo and the Sparta lumber yard. Mr. Newton acted as president of the consolidated company until 1901, and upon disposing of his interest to his brother, George M. Newton, he went to Enid, Okla., in 1902, and purchased the Enid electric lighting plant of that place and immediately reorganized the compnay and changed its name to the Enid Electric Light & Gas Company, which was operated under his direction for about one year. He then returned to Sparta, where he has since resided. He has been a stockholder and director in the Citizens' Bank of Sparta since 1907, and the same year was chosen as vice president, in which capacity he is still acting with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his associates.

On November 28, 1895, Mr. Newton was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor W. Cary, daughter of W. H. Cary, a substantial and prosperous citizen of Croswell, Mich. They have had six children; those living are Orin I., George M., Janet C., John Theodore, and Eleanor Emma Newton.

Mr. Newton is a man of fine social qualities, generous, kind hearted and genial; is domestic in his tastes, and delights in nothing better than what he finds in his home and family. He is a member of the Masonic fraterniay.

Orin I. Newton. After an illness of years, Mr. Orin I. Newton fell into his final sleep on Saturday, March 30, at 6:30 p. m.

Mr. Newton was for the better part of his life a resident of Sparta and for twenty years or more was a leading and prominent figure in its business history. He was born in Georgia, Vt., in August, 1842, his father dying when he was five years old, leaving a widow and eight children. In 1860 the family came to

Sparta, Orin being then about eighteen years old. His first business experience was in farming in company with his younger brother, Fred, in the valley southeast of Sparta in the summer of 1861, and he also taught school for a while. Subsequently he entered the store of Mr. John L. Mather, who was in the drug business in Sparta at that time and he managed the store during one season while Mr. Mather was absent prospecting with a party of gold seekers in Utah. After the latter's return Mr. Newton entered into partnership with him, their business connection continuing until Mr. Mather sold his interest to O. L. Irwin, and about six months after Mr. Newton bought out Mr. Irwin and became the sole owner of the establishment.

Mr. Newton became the owner of the Sparta paper mill, so-called, in 1871, and in the course of years built it up into a strong and profitable business and the chief manufacturing interest in the city. The mill was originally established by J. L. Mather, who subsequently transferred it to the firm of Farnaham, Shuter & Co., and its early history was one of considerable vicissitude. Mr. Newton bought it, in company with W. E. Briggs, but soon after acquired the latter's interest, and by hard work got it on a paying basis. Mr. Newton was chiefly identified by the paper mills which have so long borne his name, but this business by no means represents the extent of his business operations, which have been extensive and varied. He managed a large lumbering business, purchased and successfully carried on a flouring mill at Angelo, built and operated a paper pulp mill at Tomahawk; in connection with M. A. Thayer, established the electric lighting company and had interests in other enterprises.

Mr. Newton was a man of marked force, energy and business sagacity and possessed a resolute will and indomitable courage. These alone enabled him to combat so long the constantly aggressive physical ailment from which he suffered, and in the face of which he kept up the management of his affairs till long past the period when ordinary men would have succumbed. Ill health began with a congestive attack as long ago as 1875, and with this began a pulmonary trouble, which, after long years of stubborn contest, finally gained the mastery.

Mr. Newton united with the First Baptist church in 1868 and was one of its most prominent members, active in its work and generous in giving to its support. He was a good and valuable citizen in all relations and one of whom the city owes much of its material prosperity as well as moral welfare.

Mr. Newton was married in 1867 to Miss Emma Mather, who

died in 1873, leaving two sons. In 1875 he was again married, his present wife and his two sons, Harry and George, surviving him.

Joseph Nichols, the son of David and Eunice (Mayfield) Nichols, was born July 28, 1840, in New York. His parents, who were also natives of New York state, came to Wisconsin in 1854 with their family, and settled in Farmers' valley, Monroe county. Here the eldest brother of our subject purchased eighty acres of wild land, which was improved and placed under a high state of cultivation. In that early day the hills and forests were abundant with wild game and the creeks and rivers were well stocked with fish, of which the father took advantage—his chief recreation being hunting and fishing. The father died in 1877 and the mother passed away in 1874.

Joseph was the ninth of a family of eleven children, and started in early life to make his own way in the world; he was variously employed at farm work, receiving $7 per month for his labor. When the Civil War broke out in 1861 he enlisted in company A, third Wisconsin Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. He participated in many engagements, among them being the battles Big North Fork Creek, Mo.; Clarendon, Ark., Bull Creek, White Oak Creek, Jacksonport; Osage Mission, Kan.; Clarkesville, Ark.; Lexington, Mo., Little Blue Creek, Independence, Big Blue Mine Creek, Newtonia, Drywood and Clear Lake, and received his honorable discharge September 29, 1865, at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and returned to his home, where he again engaged in farming on a rented farm until his marriage in 1867; he went to Clark county, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1870 and homesteaded a quarter section of Government land, which he improved and where he made his home until 1877, when he purchased the farm in Wells township, where he now resides. The farm is well improved, with a good residence, barn and outbuildings. This has been his home for the past thirty-five years and is one of the few surviving Civil War veterans residing in the town of Wells. In politics he is a Republican and upholds the principles of his party.

He was married January 1, 1867, at Sparta, to Miss Melissa French, daughter of William French, also a native of New York state, and who in an early day located in Clark county, Wisconsin. Both parents of Mrs. Nichols are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have been born nine children, eight of whom are living, viz.: Edward H., born February 7, 1870; Gertie G., born March 7, 1872; Louis H., born March 10, 1874; Clara A., born November

23, 1875; Johnie E., born October 6, 1877; Maud I., born January 12, 1882; Josephine M., born November 27, 1889, and Myrtle R., born January 9, 1893; Odell J., born December 28, 1867, is deceased; Gertie G., Louis H., Clara A., Maud I., Josephine M., Edward H. and Johnie E. are married.

Robert G. Nicke, dealer in agricultural implements at Tomah, was born in Germany October 5, 1875, and came to America with his father, Gotlieb Nicke, and his family of five children in 1892. They first located in Chicago, Ill., where for two and one-half years the father worked as a day laborer. In the fall of 1895 they removed to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and purchased forty acres of land and here made their home for ten years. For two and one-half years Robert and his father operated a sawmill with marked success near Tomah. In 1904 Robert G. moved into the city of Tomah and engaged in the grocery business, which he conducted for three years. Disposing of his grocery, he purchased the implement business from Dan Crowley, and has since successfully continued in that line. He carries a large stock of all kinds of farm machinery, including gasoline engines, binders, twine, pumps, windmills, spring and farm wagons and carriages from the leading manufacturers of the country. He is one of Tomah's prosperous, safe and reliable business men and prominent alike in business and social circles. In politics he is independent in thought and action, supporting the man for office whom he thinks best qualified for the position regardless of party affiliations.

On August 12, 1908, at Tomah, Mr. Nicke was united in marriage to Miss Eda Miller. They have two children, Raymond and John Nicke.

Abel Benjamin Naset, manager of the Sparta Sash and Door Company, one of Sparta's younger class of successful business men, is a native son of Wisconsin, being born in Dane county, March 20, 1880, to J. J. and Anna B. (Johnson) Naset, natives of Norway and Illinois, respectively. In 1844 Mr. Naset came to Wisconsin and located in Dane county, where he successfully carried on farming for a number of years. He is the youngest and only surviving member of a family of six children—two sons and four daughters, and is now a resident of Bloomer, of this state. His wife, mother of Abel, died September 19, 1903, at the age of sixty-four years.

Mr. Naset, the subject of this sketch, is the youngest of a family of eight, five sons and three daughters. He, with his brother, W. O. Naset, are associated with the Sparta Sash and Door

Company. Raised on a farm, he received his education in the public schools of his home town, in the Albion Academy, and the Northern Indiana Normal School. He early gave up the idea of farming, and after finishing his school days, set out to learn the woodworkers' trade, beginning first as a carpenter. During the years 1901-2, he was in Winnebago county, Iowa, and the year 1903 he spent at Bloomer, Wis., working a portion of the time at the carpenter's trade. From 1903 to 1907 he was successfully engaged in the woodworker's trade and contracting at Edgerton. The year 1907 and part of 1908 was spent at Eauclaire, Wis., where he conducted an architectural office. On March 30 in the year 1908 he came to Sparta, and purchasing an interest in the Sparta Sash and Door Manufacturing Company, assumed the management of the concern. This is one of Sparta's largest institutions, and turns out a high grade of interior and exterior finishings, as demand requires from a wide radius of territory.

Mr. Naset was married April 30, 1907, at Cambridge, Wis., to Miss Hattie May, daughter of William and Kate (Mechersmith) Kensler. Mr. Kensler died in October, 1910.

August H. Noth, one of the influential and successful farmers of Wilton township, is a native son of Monroe county, and was born in the town of Wilton, August 10, 1869, the son of Fred and Louisa (Reke) Noth. The father was born in the state of Lippe, Germany, March 6, 1839, and when twenty years of age came to America and first located at New Orleans in the fall of 1859. After his arrival there he found the war clouds so heavy that he moved on to St. Louis, not being in sympathy with the Southern cause, and not feeling inclined to take up arms against the Union. He enlisted at St. Louis, Mo., on July 21, 1861, in company E, second Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and was made sergeant and color bearer of his regiment, and served until honorably discharged September 29, 1864. In 1866 he came to Monroe county, and with his father, purchased 240 acres of land in sections seven and eight, Wilton township, which at that time was wild land. He endured many hardships and privations as a pioneer, but by hard work and perseverance succeeded in subduing the land and bringing it to a good state of cultivation and productiveness. He was one of the successful farmers of the county, and owned at the time of his death, which occurred in 1890, one of the best farms in the township. He was honorable in all his dealings, public spirited and genial, and any worthy cause always received his support. He stood high in his community, and was considered one of the well-to-do men in the town. Mrs. Noth, mother of our

subject, who was a kind and loving mother and indulgent wife, passed away October 27, 1881, honored and esteemed by all who knew her.

August H. received his education in the district school, which he attended up to his twentieth year, helping with the general farm work and assisting in clearing the land and making the improvements. Since the death of his father he has had charge of the farm, which he has continued to improve and bring to a higher state of cultivation. The residence, which was erected about thirty years ago, is comfortable and well constructed, and his barns, one of which is 30 x 56 feet, and other outbuildings are commodious and conveniently arranged. His supply of pure water, which is secured from a deep driven well, operated by a large windmill, furnishes plenty of water for his house and stock. In his farming operations, Mr. Noth uses the latest up-to-date methods and his place is well supplied with modern labor saving machinery, and he takes pride in keeping it well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs.

On October 26, 1898, he was married in the town of Ridgeville, to Miss Amelia Kevit, daughter of August and Arnstena Kevit, pioneers, and highly respected settlers of Ridgeville township. Mrs. Noth is the second child in a family of six children, five of whom are now living. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Noth, viz.: Neta, born January 27, 1900; Raymond W., born February 22, 1902; Corliss August, born July 11, 1905; Adalia A., born October 25, 1907, and Mildred L., born March 11, 1911.

Mr. Noth is one of the substantial farmers of his town, and takes an interest in all public matters. He has been chairman of the town board, treasurer of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company and a director of the school board for fifteen years. He is a stockholder in the Elgin Creamery Company, of Wilton, and in politics a progressive Republican.

Fred W. Noth, chairman of the board of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, was born March 29, 1874, in the town of Wilton, Wis., the son of Fred and Louisa (Reke) Noth, both natives of Germany. The father came to America in 1860 and settled in St. Louis, Mo., where he lived until he enlisted in the second Missouri Volunteer Infantry. After the close of the war, he came with his father, mother, two sisters and one brother to Ridgeville, Wilton township, and settled on the farm, where he married and where he lived until his death. His first wife died and he remarried. After the death of his father, our subject went with

his stepmother to her farm in Ridgeville, which he leased from her and took care of her, A. H. Noth getting the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Noth raised a family of six children, five of whom are now (1912) living, Fred W. being the fourth child. He attended the district schools until his seventeenth year, and at the age of twenty-two, on June 2, 1897, he was married to Miss Bertha Kewit, whose parents were early settlers of Ridgeville township. They have two children, viz.: Eldon, born July 20, 1899, and Leona, born February 27, 1902.

Fred W. Noth acquired the homestead of 120 acres in sections ten and eleven, Ridgeville township, by purchase, where he has since resided; the mother also lived here until 1909, when she died. He is a man of more than usual thrift and ambition, and the wave of prosperity which he has enjoyed for the past few years is evidence of his good management and economical methods. He has increased his acreage to 260 in sections ten, eleven and twenty-three, enlarged his residence, barns and other outbuildings, until he now has one of the most spacious and commodious homes in Monroe county, and besides carrying on general farming, he makes a specialty of the dairy business. He is a Republican in politics and active in all movements pertaining to the welfare of his community. In 1912 he was elected chairman of the board of Ridgeville township, and for some time served as supervisor. He is also a director of the Farmers' State Bank.

George Novotny is one of the prominent Bohemian citizens of Ridgeville township, Monroe county. He was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, on March 11, 1859, the fifth of a family of six children, only three of whom are now (1912) living, born to Francis and Therisa (Houdek) Novotny, both natives of Bohemia. They came to America in 1852 and located in Racine county, where they purchased forty acres of wild timber land and immediately set to work to clear and cultivate the land, and after about seventeen years of pioneer experience, they disposed of this farm and moved to Monroe county in 1869 and purchased a farm of 120 acres in section twelve in the township of Ridgeville, which they made their homestead and where they continued to experience the trials and hardships of pioneer life. Ten years later the father died, and his widow survived until 1898. Mr. Novotny was married twice; his first marriage was with Miss Lydia Tomas, and they had a family of four sons. Mrs. Novotny died in 1841, and he married again in December, 1842, the second Mrs. Novotny being the mother of our subject.

George was always the mainstay of his parents, and after the

death of his father he continued to live on the homestead with his mother during her lifetime, and eventually acquired the farm in his own right. His education was limited, however, to the district schools of his neighborhood up to his fourteenth year, owing to his farm duties, but being an apt pupil and wide awake to the affairs of the day, his practical knowledge soon placed him in the front ranks in the township as a farmer and citizen. He has always been a good Republican and a faithful worker for the principles of that party. He is greatly interested in and favors every enterprise for the development of his town and county.

Mr. George Novotny was married on November 19, 1885, in the city of Racine, Wis., to Miss Mary Haman, daughter of Anton and Marianna Haman, who were also natives of Bohemia, and came to America in 1865 and settled in Racine county, where her father was employed in a sash and door factory for some twenty-five years. He died in 1891; the mother is still living at the age of seventy-six years. They were both devoted members of the Catholic church. They had a family of three children, Mrs. Novotny being the second child.

Mr. and Mrs. Novotny have two children: Esther M., born October 25, 1886, married August 28, 1912, to Mr. Adolph Noth, moved to Unity, Clark county, Wis., and Gordon G., born January 16, 1891.

Nehemiah Oakley, who has been a resident of Monroe county, Wisconsin, for forty-three years, is an active and useful citizen and has done his full share in developing the material resources of the county and transforming it from a wilderness to its present high place among the rich and fruitful counties of the state. A native of Montgomery county, New York, he was born August 19, 1834. When he was three years old, his parents, Edward and Polly (Wire) Oakley, who were also natives of New York state, moved to Ontario, Canada, and there spent the balance of their days. Mr. Oakley, our subject, is the second child and only surviving member of his family of brothers and sisters; the others were Charity, Charles, Mary Elizabeth and Phoebie Jane.

Nehemiah attended the common schools of Ontario, but the death of his father having occurred when he was twelve years of age, he was practically thrown upon his own resources, and his chances for advances were limited. At the age of eighteen, he purchased the home farm from his stepfather, and in that year married and began a farmer's life in earnest; he afterwards sold this farm, however, and rented a farm in the same locality, where

he remained for six years. In 1869 he came to Wisconsin and homesteaded an eighty-acre tract in Monroe county near Tunnel City, to which he subsequently added another eighty acres in section two, Greenfield township, where he now resides. He was not long in clearing the first eighty and fifteen acres of the other, which he subdued and brought to a good state of cultivation, erected a good class of buildings and added all the needed appliances and conveniences of an up-to-date, model farm. Energetic, enterprising and progressive, he takes pride in his farm, town and county. Mr. Oakley is one of the representative and intelligent citizens of Greenfield township and is a man of general worth in the community; he has been chairman of his town for nine terms and a member of the side board; clerk of the school district, and for nineteen consecutive years school treasurer.

On May 23, 1852, Mr. Oakley was married to Miss Fannie H. Woodard, daughter of Daniel and Harriet (Sisco) Woodard, who also were natives of the Empire state, but who moved to Ontario, Canada, and later to Michigan, where both died. Mrs. Oakley is one of a family of eleven children, six of whom survive, viz.: Elvira is the wife of William Sisco, and resides in Michigan; Edwin, also of Michigan; Clifford lives in Lincoln township, this county; Sophia married Alfred Quick, of Michigan; Flavilla is the wife of Andrew Hilliker, late of Tomah, and Sarah is the wife of Wellington Schnell, of Michigan. Those deceased are Wilson, Anna, Marietta, Daniel and one who died in infancy.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley are Elveretta, who married Stowell Brown, of Trout Falls, LaFayette township; Mary E. is the wife of John Purdy, of Greenfield township; Wellington lives in Oregon; Oscar resides in the state of Washington; Armina is the wife of Hamlin Griffin, of the town of Grant, this county, and Arcenith, wife of Edwin Purdy of Greenfield. Those deceased are Sarah Jane, who married Frank Purdy; Alice; Emma and three who died in infancy. The celebration of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley was an event long to be remembered by their wide circle of friends.

Mrs. Jens Oleson, wife of Jens Oleson, deceased, was born in Norway December 7, 1860, the daughter of Halvor Bergerson. She came to America with her parents from Norway in 1872, who, after their arrival in this country, came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and located on a quarter section of land in section sixteen, Leon township, where they spent their lives. The father was born in 1819, and died in 1902. The mother, born in 1819,

NEHEMIAH OAKLEY AND FAMILY

passed away in 1896. They were the parents of six children, and the father was a successful farmer and stock raiser, keeping his farm well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs. He was a man of noble Christian character, and he and his wife were honored members of the Lutheran church and had great influence in the community.

Mrs. Oleson was married March 12, 1878, in the town of Leon, to Mr. Jens Oleson, who was born in Norway October 26, 1853. When five years of age, in 1858, his parents came to America and were among the early settlers of the Leon valley. The father was a hard working, thrifty farmer and owned at the time of his death 320 acres of land. Mr. Oleson, husband of our subject, was successful in his operations as a farmer, and his farm was highly improved by cultivation and buildings, and the modern residence erected in 1904, with the commodious outbuildings, make theirs one of the up-to-date country homes of the valley. He was kind-hearted and generous and a devoted member of the Lutheran church, having the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He died May 7, 1904, leaving besides his estimable wife, a family of twelve children, as follows: Johanna, born August 11, 1878; Dora, born February 11, 1880; Oscar, born September 2, 1882; Harold, born December 20, 1884; Ida, born February 18, 1887; Augusta, born April 21, 1889; Nora, born January 6, 1892; Olga, born June 17, 1894; Joseph, born September 2, 1896; Leonard, born October 6, 1898, and Walter and William, twins, born February 23, 1902.

Godfrey Oswald, of Pleasant valley, was born in Switzerland, May 11, 1854. His parents were Jacob and Anna (Frey) Oswald, both natives of Switzerland. They came to America with a family of eight children and located at Bangor, La Crosse county, Wisconsin; after a residence there of two years they moved to Salem, and afterwards, in 1860, came to Monroe county and began the life of farmers on 160 acres of land, which the father homesteaded in the Pleasant valley, and where they spent the balance of their lives. They toiled hard in the honest endeavor to build them a home and suffered many privations at first, but were successful in the end, passing away at the close of a busy and well spent life, honored and respected by all who knew them. Mr. Oswald was born in 1811 and died in 1883. Mrs. Oswald, born in 1816, passed away in 1885. In Switzerland the father secured a liberal education and belonged to the Lutheran church, but after coming to America was never identified with any religious denomination. Although not being able to converse fluently in the English

language, he had many remarkable traits in his character, that were appreciated and admired by his many friends. In horticultural matters he took a decided interest, and during his lifetime planted two apple orchards, which are now bearing prolifically, and nearly every year produce liberal returns, and there is no orchard in the Plesant valley that will surpass them.

Godfrey Oswald received a limited education, but is well posted on all current topics. He has made farming his life work, and after the death of his father was made administrator of his estate and subsequently purchased the old homestead. Mr. Oswald is a man of thrift and ability, and has made a grand success of farming, as well as gaining and retaining the good will of his fellow men.

He was married July 4, 1890, to Miss Agnes Flog, whose parents came from Germany. Three children have been born to this union, viz.: Emma Maggie, Dorotha K., a graduate of the Sparta High School in the class of 1911, is a teacher, and George, who is living at home with his parents.

Nicholas F. Palen, one of the leading men of Sparta in his line of business, that of a plumber, is a native of Caledonia, Minn., where he was born December 13, 1873. His parents, Leopold and Mary (Hupert) Palen were born in Luxemburg, Germany, and emigrated to the United States in the early sixties. Their first stopping place after reaching this country was at Dubuque, Iowa, where they remained for only a short time and moved on to Minnesota, where Mr. Palen entered land and engaged in farming, which he followed until about four years previous to his death, which occurred in the fall of 1909, at the age of sixty-nine years. He was a thrifty, progressive and successful farmer and considered among the best class of pioneers of his community. Mrs. Palen, his widow, still survives and makes her home at Caledonia. Leopold Palen was one of a family of nine children, all of whom came from Germany, the only surviving member of that family being Mrs. Frances Burkhart, wife of Julius Burkhart, of La Crosse, Wis. Frank Hupert, the maternal grandfather of our subject, emigrated to this country at about the same time of the Palens, and settled at Dubuque, Iowa, where he also engaged in farming. Nicholas is the fifth child of a family of fourteen children, eleven of whom are now (1912) living. They are Frank J., of Dubuque, Iowa; Anna, the wife of Mat Molitor, of Adrian, Minn.; Mary, the wife of H. A. Hengel, of Winona, Minn.; Frances, widow of P. M. Fous, of Caladonia, Minn.; Nicholas F., the subject of this sketch; Jennie, wife of J. P.

Gaspard, of Caladonia; Henry, who resides on the home farm; Josephine, wife of Mr. Ascott, of St. Paul, Minn.; Emil, who resides at La Crosse, Wis.; Lucy, wife of Nicholas Koel, of Caladonia; Joseph, of the same place, and three who died in infancy.

Nicholas Palen was raised on his father's farm, attending the district schools in winter and working on the farm in summer, until 1892, when he began work at the plumbers' trade at Winona, Minn., with the firm of H. A. Hengel & Co. Having thoroughly mastered the trade, in 1898 he came to Sparta and formed a co-partnership with J. H. Hengel, the style of the firm being Hengel & Palen. This business arrangement was successfully carried on for five years, when Mr. Palen purchased his partner's interest and has since continued under his own name the plumbing and heating business, in which he has been eminently successful. He has been at his present location for nine years; is the leader in his line, and has placed the plumbing and heating apparatus in all the best residences in the city, as well as in several public buildings, and also the buildings at the state farm.

Mr. Palen was married September 2, 1901, to Miss Gertrude Walser, of Winona, Minn., and they have one child, Vernon Walser Palen. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Maccabees, and takes an active interest in all matters that pertain to the betterment of the locality in which he resides.

Irvin Nelson Palmer, who has been identified with the business life of Tomah since 1876, is a native of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, born December 22, 1848, son of Nelson H. and Almira (Taylor) Palmer. The father was born in Connecticut and raised a family of eleven children, two of whom are now living. He came to Wisconsin in 1840 and settled on a farm in Fond du Lac county, but afterwards moved to Adams county, later going to Michigan, where he died in 1863, his wife, mother of Nelson, having passed away in 1849.

Our subject spent his early manhood on a farm, receiving his education in the schools of Michigan. He taught school during the winter months and followed farming until he was twenty-eight years of age, when in 1876 he came to Tomah, and purchasing the store of J. H. Stewart, he entered upon the career of a merchant, which he has followed with marked success up to the present time. His stock now consists of books, stationery, toys, and everything found in a first class up-to-date variety store. In connection he has a large news stand, and has exclusive sale of all the Chicago, Milwaukee and La Crosse daily papers.

Mr. Palmer is a man who stands high in the business and social life of Tomah; he is an active member in the Masonic order and has filled all the chairs of the Blue Lodge and Chapter. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Rebeccas. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and the Modern Woodmen of America; has been clerk of the latter for twenty-four years and of the former for twenty years. In politics he takes a lively interest in all matters pertaining to the Republican party.

Mr. Palmer has been twice married; his first marriage was in 1874 with Miss Sallie Talbot, and to this union was born one daughter, Lulu M., who is now the wife of Paul Austin. After the death of Mrs. Palmer, in 1887, Mr. Palmer was again married, this time to Miss Elizabeth Micumber, of Augusta, Wis. She is also now deceased.

William Potter Palmer, a retired business man of Sparta, has been identified with the business life of Sparta for half a century. He was born in Johnstown, N. Y., on August 13, 1842, and when fourteen years of age, in 1856, he came to Sparta with his parents, who were Hagerman and Mary (Potter) Palmer, natives of New York and England respectively. Hagerman Palmer, father of William, was born in the town of Watervliet, Albany county, New York, November 14, 1815, and his father, David Palmer, was a native of Dutchess county. On November 28, 1839, Hagerman Palmer married Miss Mary Potter, who died August 27, 1894, mother of William. The earliest American ancestors of Mr. Palmer came from England to America in the Sixteenth century. Three brothers emigrated from that country and settled in the colony of Connecticut. Numerous descendants of these brothers are now scattered throughout the Union, many of whom have become men of note, among them the late and well known Potter Palmer, of Chicago, who was the third cousin of our subject. The maiden name of Hagerman Palmer's mother was Catherine Hagerman, a native of Saratoga county, New York. The parents of Hagerman Palmer continued to reside in Albany county, New York, until their death. He was the last surviving member of a family of thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters. In early life Mr. Palmer was engaged in farming, and after his marriage secured employment as an agent for James Roy & Company, of West Troy, N. Y., manufacturers of broadcloth and shawls, and later he engaged in merchandising. In 1855 he came to Sparta and with a company of capitalists entered on land warrants about 6,000 acres of land, the greater part of which was

in Monroe county. In this enterprise Mr. Palmer had one-fourth interest. In April of the following year (1856) Mrs. Palmer, with the rest of the family, joined her husband in their new home. For fourteen years Mr. Palmer was engaged in the drug business in Sparta, and also made a business of buying and selling hops for some years, with headquarters for this in St. Louis; his principal line in Sparta, however, has been real estate.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1889, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer celebrated their golden wedding at their beautiful home, entertaining on the occasion about 360 guests.

As a progressive and enterprising business man, Mr. Palmer was a success; he was a man of marked individuality, independent in thought and action; a man among men, whose presence was missed by his wide circle of friends and associates. His death occurred on September 12, 1905.

William Potter Palmer, the subject of this sketch, is the second child of a family of eleven children; the others are: Carrie P. Lee, of Oregon; David H., of Oregon; George H., of Sparta; Emma W. Dodge, of Sparta; Henry W., of La Crosse; Mary, wife of E. H. Canfield, resides in Sparta; John V., who died July 11, 1911, and Charles E., Ellen J. and Minnie E., deceased.

William received his education in the public schools of his native place, and at the age of sixteen years he entered as clerk the drug store of his father, which business finally became his chief occupation in life. At that time the firm name was Condit & Palmer, later Palmer & Rogers, and afterward changed to Palmer & Gage, with whom he was employed until 1875, when he embarked in the drug business on his own account, which he successfully conducted until 1896; at this time Mr. Fred Gross purchased a half interest, who afterwards, associated with Mr. Shaller, purchased the other half interest. Mr. Palmer later purchased a bankrupt stock of drugs and, as a member of the Taylor Drug Company, continued in this line of business until February 19, 1907, when he retired from all active business.

During his long and busy career, Mr. Palmer has filled many positions of trust and honor. From 1891 to 1898 he was vice-president of the Bank of Sparta; he early served as village treasurer and assessor and was for two years county clerk. He is recognized as one of the foremost citizens of Sparta, highly esteemed by a host of friends whom he has gathered around him by his thorough business habits and social qualities. He is free from all ostentatious pride, is genial and affable in his manner, always ready to bestow a favor, to speak a kind word or do a

kind act, and, being enterprising to an eminent degree, he takes a lively interest in all measures tending to the welfare and prosperity of his city and county.

On May 10, 1866, Mr. Palmer was united in marriage at Sparta with Miss Esther M., daughter of Guy and Emily (Richmond) Shaw, natives of Genesee county, New York, who came to Sparta when Mrs. Palmer was but twelve years of age. The parents of Mrs. Palmer enjoyed over sixty years of happy married life. Mrs. Shaw was born February 12, 1812, and died April 28, 1896. Mr. Shaw was born May 3, 1812, and died March 9, 1896. Of four children, Mrs. Palmer is the youngest; the others are: Catherine R., wife of W. E. Graves, of Sparta; Horace, died May 12, 1876, and Daniel, who died January 27, 1876. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are Lelia Roselle, born January 28, 1870, married W. W. Taylor, of Stevens Point, Wis., and has two children, Palmer W. Taylor, born September 17, 1900, and Gage McPherson Taylor, born January 10, 1904. The other child, Guy H. Palmer, was born May 1, 1883, is superintendent and an electrical engineer of Mammoth Springs, Ark. He was married, January 25, 1912, to Florence Burnell, of Medford, Ore.

William F. Parsons, a progressive and prosperous farmer, residing in the Big Creek Valley, on section seven, Sparta township, is a native son of Monroe county and was born at Tomah, the son of William Barlow and Lucy (Lockwood) Parsons.

William Barlow Parsons was born at Randolph, Vt., May 3, 1824, the seventh descendant from Deacon C. Bengem Parsons of the Mayflower, one of the three brothers who came over at that time (1620). He attended school in Massachusetts, taught in the East, came to Baraboo, Wis., about 1854, where he met his wife and was married in 1855. Mr. Parson having already pre-empted land in LaGrange township, near Tomah, being the first to pre-empt land in that part of the county, and moved to the farm in the spring of 1855. Mrs. Parson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles David Lockwood, came from Kingston, Canada, in 1854, settled in Baraboo, where Mr. Lockwood bought a townsite, but the town not materializing, they located in Tunnel City, where they ran the Lockwood House for several years, afterwards settling on a little farm in Hopeville, which was a portion of the Parsons land. Mr. Parsons was school township superintendent until the county of Monroe was organized and county officers elected. He was for many years town clerk and justice of the peace, and united in marriage several of the now old people of the community. He was always interested in all improvements for the good of the

county, a faithful home friend to many. During the war he did his duty for the country at home, aiding those in need by loaning money. The Parson's home was always a hospitable center, where many people on their westward journey in the early days were given assistance and good cheer; he also aided in the upbuilding of the county by locating many in that section. He taught school for several terms, many of those who came under his instruction remembering him as one who inspired them to greater effort and ambition for a place of usefulness in life. He was one of the few in the neighborhood who took active part in Sunday school and church work, and was a leader in literary societies, spelling schools, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsons lived in a log house, the first one built in the locality, until 1866, where six of their children were born, Lucinda Parsons, the eldest, being the first white child born in that locality. They moved to Clear Lake, S. D., in 1883-1884, and were pioneers of that section. They settled on a homestead near town, where they lived until a short time before their demise. They were always honored and respected, and lived without reproach, his motto being "to owe no man aught but love and charity." Of Mrs. Parsons could truly be said: "Her children grew up calling her blessed." Mr. Parsons survived his wife one year.

William F. Spent his early life on the homestead farm of 160 acres which his father took up in LaGrange township when he came to Monroe county in 1854. He attended the public school and at the age of twenty-one went to the pineries of northern Michigan and was foreman of a lumber camp for some time, when he went to western Minnesota and purchased 160 acres of land, thence to Dakota, where he homesteaded 160 acres. After proving up on this, he returned to the Michigan pineries and five years later disposed of his Minnesota land and returned to Monroe county and to his present location in Sparta township, where, in 1902, he bought his farm of 175 acres from John Hutson, which he has since improved by the addition of a barn 40x90 feet, silo 14x35 feet, milk house 14x14 feet, and a sorghum mill. His dairy grades are the Jerseys, Holsteins and Duroc Jersey Red, and, besides his stock raising and dairying, he is engaged in diversified farming and has one of the finest farms in Big Creek Valley.

In 1901 he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Hutson, daughter of John Hutson, one of the early settlers of Sparta township. To this union has been born three children, viz.: William Lloyd, Wallace Earl and Cecil Paul. Mr. Parsons is a member of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association, Sparta Fair Association,

the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his family affiliate with the Big Creek Methodist Episcopal church.

Erick Peterson, one of the very first settlers of Portland township, a man of progressive ideas and a substantial citizen, was born in Norway, February 18, 1829, the son of Peter and Martha Erickson, both natives of Norway. Our subject remained in his native country until 1851, when, with his wife and one child, he came to America, and for a time was located at Rochester, Racine county, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a fanning mill factory. His father, who always lived in Norway, was a millwright, and worked at this trade as well as that of carpenter. He was a man of excellent judgment and the father of eight children, our subject being the second child; seven of this family are still (1912) living. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and prominent in their community.

In 1858 Erick Peterson located in the town of Portland, and for a time followed the trade of carpenter and builder. In 1859 he purchased 240 acres of land in sections six and twenty-five, and afterwards added forty acres in section thirty-six. After a residence here of nine years, he moved to the town of Jefferson. Mr. Peterson relates that when he first located in the town of Portland there were but few settlers, and no settlement from which to procure supplies, La Crosse being the nearest trading point; flour at that time was ten dollars per barrel, and other things in proportion; the country was but a wilderness inhabited by wild game and Indians; bear and deer were plentiful, and Mr. Peterson being an excellent marksman, he had no trouble in supplying his family with venison, which was their chief means of subsistence; he has killed many bear and deer on the old homestead, and relates a little thrilling experience of a day's hunt for deer in a strip of timber, when, after sighting the game, he was attracted by a noise in the tree tops, and upon looking up saw a large panther making ready to spring upon him; he quickly fired a lucky shot which brought the panther dead at his feet. It was the only animal of this kind he ever saw in Portland, and the hide was purchased by a man from Milwaukee, at a fancy price. This incident merely touches on the volume of interesting experiences which Mr. Peterson relates, but lack of space prevents us from going further into details.

Mr. Peterson, possessed with that energy and thrift common to his people, by hard work and persistent energy, cleared his land and soon brought to a good state of cultivation and productiveness, and now values it at one hundred dollars per acre,

after experiencing the privations and hardships of pioneer life for many years, and now holds a prominent place in his community. He has been active in the affairs of the Republican party and for years has served his town in various capacities, being supervisor for one year, assessor for three years, and many other offices. He now lives in practical retirement at his fine home on the farm near Cashton.

He was married in Norway, in 1851, to Miss Olena Oleson, daughter of Chris and Alena Oleson, she being one of a family of three children. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have had a family of twelve children, six of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Peter, born February 7, 1853; Martha, born February 9, 1855; Edward, born May 9, 1859; Elizabeth, born April 17, 1861; Ellsworth, born June 12, 1864, and Oscar, born January 13, 1868.

Ellsworth Peterson, who was his father's mainstay on the farm, where he resided until he was twenty-two years old, was then employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad for ten years, after which he returned to the home farm and remained for twelve years. On March 20, 1886, he was married, in the town of Portland, to Miss Martha Christian, whose parents are both deceased, Mrs. Peterson being the only living member of a family of three children. To Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Peterson have been born nine children, viz.: Edwin, Cleuse, Emma, Clara, Lewie, Willia, Amanda, Clarence and Tellman.

Oscar Peterson, the son of O—— J. and Christina (Oleson) Peterson, was born in Norway, September 30, 1867. He emigrated to America, preceding his parents, who also came to this country in 1892. They reared a family of seven children, six of whom are now living. The father, at the age of seventy years, and his mother, at the age of seventy-four years, are both living in Monroe county. Our subject began his career as a cook in a restaurant, and by thrift, industry and economy accumulated his earnings, and then embarked in the mercantile business. In 1892 he opened a general store at Melvina. John E. Fremstad afterward entered into copartnership with him, and for four years the business was conducted under the firm name of Peterson and Fremstad. Mr. Peterson purchased his partner's interest, and since that time has conducted the business by himself, and now has one of the largest general stores in Monroe county. He carries a good class of merchandise, and has a large and growing patronage, and by his honorable and upright dealing has won the confidence of his patrons, which he justly merits. In 1911 Mr. Peterson purchased the old Hunt Mill, which for more than

forty years has been successfully run, being first operated by water power, then steam, which has finally given way to the popular gasoline engine. The mill is well equipped with modern machinery and is operated in connection with his store. The mill has recently been remodeled and has a capacity of fifty barrels of flour daily and three hundred sacks of feed, and Mr. Peterson is kept busy in supplying the demands of his customers.

During the administration of President McKinley, Mr. Peterson was appointed postmaster at Melvina, a position, with the exception of a brief time, he has since continued to fill. He is Republican in politics, and for over thirty years has been a director on the school board, and for two years has served as justice of the peace. In fraternal matters he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1892 Mr. Peterson was married to Miss Matilda Anderson, daughter of John Anderson, of Leon. To this union has been born nine children, viz.: Elmer R., born January 16, 1894; Oscar M., born February 12, 1896; Mabel C., born May 2, 1897; Ernest J., born February 23, 1900; Evelyn C., born January 27, 1903; Joseph L., born October 5, 1905; Clarence A., born December 24, 1907; Alice R., born January 23, 1910, and Julia H., born March 20, 1912.

Frank Pier, who was born on section twelve, Greenfield township, Monroe county, where he now resides, is a son of Peter and Mary (Schlichter) Pier, both natives of Germany. They came to America in early life, and were married at East Troy, Wis. Coming west to Wisconsin, they first settled in Clark county, near Neilsville, and from there to Monroe county, fully a half century ago. Arriving here and finding it one of the best agricultural fields in the West, they located in Greenfield township, on a tract of 120 acres of wild land, forty of which was preempted from the Government, and here he established a home for himself and family; clearing seventy acres, he erected buildings and brought the land to a high state of cultivation, improving as the years passed. Here the parents spent their lives, the father died in 1904, at the age of eighty years, and the mother passed away in 1910, at the age of seventy-six. They were both devoted members of St. Mary's Catholic church.

Frank first saw the light of day July 14, 1870, and is the youngest of a family of seven children, of whom three are now living, viz.: John resides on a farm in Greenfield township, adjoining that of our subject; Mary married J. J. Kiefer and lives in the town of Greenfield; and Frank, our subject. Those

deceased are Michael, Anna, Maggie and Peter. Frank was reared on the home farm and attended the district schools, assisting with the farm work. In 1897 he came into possession of the homestead, where he now lives, successfully engaged in general farming. He is one of the progressive and popular men of his town, is active in its interests, and served his town as assessor for the term of 1911 and 1912.

He was married October 18, 1898, to Miss Lena Burkart, daughter of Milo Burkart, of Fairchild, Wis.

Carl N. Pierce,* farmer and dairyman, who resides on section fifteen, Sparta township, is a native son of Wisconsin, and was born in Green Lake county, near Randolph Center, January 2, 1879, the second child of a family of five children born to W. H. and Minnie (Ruh) Pierce. Of the others, William is deceased; Harry lives in Oregon; Alonzo resides in Sparta, and Marie is the wife of Thomas Brown, of Sparta township. The parents emigrated from Germany to the United States and first settled on a farm in Green Lake county, but subsequently moved to Monroe county.

Carl N. was raised on the farm in Adams county, Wisconsin, and attended the common schools. He came to Monroe county with his parents in 1893, where he engaged in the farm work and assisted his father in operating the Testor Mill. At the age of twenty-two he began farming on his own account on the Lawson farm in Sparta township; at the end of four years he purchased 110 acres in Leon township, which he sold one year later and returned to the Lawson farm, which he continued to operate until 1909, when he purchased the Kenyon farm of 119 acres, which he has since conducted, and on February 1, 1912, he began operations in the dairy business, conducting the same from the W. E. Davis farm.

In 1901 Mr. Pierce was united in marriage with Miss Agnes Guy, daughter of William N. and Isabella (Nichol) Guy, whose sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce have two children, viz.: Earl Guy and Agnes Ethel Pierce.

Fraternally, Mr. Pierce is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Beavers.

John C. Pingel,* farmer, section twenty-seven, Tomah township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born in the town of Wilton, April 11, 1871. He is a son of John and Beatrice (Fisher) Pingel, natives of Germany. John Pingel is now living in the town of Tomah, at the age of seventy-three years.

John C. attended the district schools up to his sixteenth year and began to make his way and gain a livelihood at the age of seventeen years, when he was employed as a farm hand at twelve dollars per month, and continued at this occupation until 1894, when he was employed in the saw mills at Ackley, Minn., until 1902, when he came to Monroe county, and purchased 180 acres of land in sections twenty-seven and thirty-four, Tomah township, where he now resides. Since his purchase he has added extensive improvements by erecting a barn 34x60 feet in 1911, and has put the land under a high state of cultivation. His farm is also well stocked with a fine grade of horses, cattle and hogs.

September 25, 1894, Mr. Pingel was united in marriage with Minnie Runion, in Minnesota. They have five children, viz.: Ida H., John F., George E., Walter R. and Clara S. Mr. Pingel is one of the progressive citizens of his township and takes an interest in all public matters for the good of his town and county. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and in politics is a Republican.

Albert G. Prescott, secretary and manager of the Greenfield Creamery at Tunnel City, Monroe county, is a native of Farmington, Maine, where he was born August 19, 1864, and is the only son and eldest child in a family of two children born to George C. and Naomi (Whitney) Prescott, also a native of Maine. The other, Jennie, is the wife of G. A. Hackett, and resides in La Grange township. George C. Prescott, father of our subject, served during the Civil War in the Fifth Regiment Maine Battery; the parents came to Monroe county in 1867, when our subject was three years of age, and settled in La Grange township, where the father died in 1892, at the age of sixty-three years.

Albert G. was reared on the home farm and attended the district school. In 1888 he was employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad in Iowa and South Dakota. After a short time thus spent, he returned to the home farm, which he successfully carried on until the death of his father, when he became the owner, and which he continued to conduct until 1908, when he assumed his present duties as secretary and manager of the Greenfield Creamery, which under his management has shown an increased business each year. The members of the organization are: William Gasper, president; George Heser, vice-president; A. G. Prescott, secretary and manager; E. C. Graham, treasurer. The board of directors are: Joseph Zastoupil, William Hines and T. J. Rowan. During his busy life, Mr.

Prescott has found time outside of his personal affairs to serve as clerk of his town, treasurer and member of the town board. For four years he served as a member of Company K, Third Regiment, Wisconsin National Guard, and in fraternal matters is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On April 3, 1889, Mr. Prescott was married to Miss Sarah Hackett, daughter of G. O. Hackett, of Plattville, Wis. To them have been born five children, viz.: Florence is the wife of Charles Johson, of Greenfield township, and Minnie married George Johnson, and lives in Greenfield township. George W., Claude E., and Dora M. reside at home.

Irving Price,* son of Sanford and Phoebe Price, was born on September 7, 1850, in Washington county, New York, and is the only child living of a family of two. His father was born in 1826, and died in 1885; his mother was born in 1831. The family came to Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1853, and were among the early settlers in that part of the country, and after living there for a time, they decided to move to Columbia county, where the opportunities seemed more favorable, and where he sought employment at varied occupations for several years, with reasonably good success. He was a bright and energetic young man and through his faithful efforts and close application to work it was not long before he was making a comfortable livelihood for his family. He was courageous and forceful in his habits, and where duty demanded he was the first to act. In 1862 he enlisted in the Eighth Wisconsin Battery, which he followed to the end of the war, and his army history alone would make an interesting volume. Among the many encounters in which he participated were the following: battle of Bay Springs, August 2, 1862; battle of Iuka, Miss., September 19, 1862; battle of Chaften Hills, October 8, 1862; battle of Lancaster, October 8, 1862; battle of Corinth, November 3 and 4, 1862; battle of Stone River, December 30 and 31, 1862; battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863; battle of Mission Ridge, November 24, 1863, and battle of Lookout Mountain, November 25, 1863. After obtaining his discharge in 1865, he returned to Dane county for a short time, then moved to Monroe county with his family of two children, and purchased a forty-acre tract of land in section thirty-two, which was his homestead until his death, and which has since been conducted by our subject, who lives here with his mother, who is now (1912) in her eighty-fifth year, and the quaint little

home with its occupants has for many years been the center of attraction for a large circle of friends who hold them in the highest esteem.

Mr. Price is a Republican in politics and takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his community.

Frank F. Prielipp. To the younger class of progressive farmers of Greenfield township belongs Frank Prielipp, of section thirteen. A native of Milwaukee, Wis., he was born November 8, 1882, the son of Ferdinand and Louisa (Albright) Prielipp, natives of Germany. They emigrated to America in the early 80's and engaged in farming, first on an eighty-acre tract, but subsequently moved to the farm of 120 acres, which our subject now conducts, and which at that time was mostly wild land. The father established the family home, cleared and subdued the land, erected buildings and engaged in general farming, at which he was successful. Mrs. Prielipp, mother of our subject, lived to the age of thirty-two years, and died in 1894.

Frank F. attended the common schools and spent his boyhood on the farm, and since 1909 has had full management of the home place, and in 1912 purchased from George H. Dohle, of section seven, La Grange township, his finely improved and productive farm of 120 acres which he works in connection with his old homestead farm. Mr. Prielipp is one of a family of five sisters and brothers. Of the others, Lena married Levi Ryckman and resides at Rockford, Ill.; Emma is the wife of Adolph Sell, Greenfield township; Martha is the wife of E. Snowberry, of Tunnel City, and Otto Prielipp, of La Grange township.

On March 27, 1906, Mr. Prielipp married Miss Julia Heser, daughter of William and Cora (Kenyon) Heser, of Pleasant Valley, Greenfield township. They have two children, viz.: Ralph A., born December 3, 1908, and Luella L., born January 22, 1911.

Louis Pollock was born on a farm in section thirty-six, Sparta township, where he now resides, November 30, 1871, son of Julius and Minnie (Secert) Pollock, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States in the late sixties. They came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and purchased a farm of 160 acres, where our subject now resides, from Hagerman Palmer; here he lived until 1902, when he removed to the city of Sparta. He is a carpenter and joiner by trade and at times, as occasion demanded, followed his trade in connection with his farming operations. Louis was reared on the home farm and attended the district schools, and when his parents removed to Sparta assumed the management of the farm.

On May 18, 1901, he was married to Miss Lucy Lord, daughter of Edward and Mary (Sprague) Lord, of Lafayette township. Mrs. Lord died in 1897, at the age of forty years. Mr. and Mrs. Pollock have five children, viz.: Alvina Alnora, born October 18, 1902; Carl Alexander, born March 18, 1904; Bertha May, born July 24, 1905; Marie Minnie, born April 30, 1907, and August Louis, born April 20, 1909.

Jacob L. Poss belongs to the younger class of successful farmers of Wells township, Monroe county, where he was born June 10, 1878, and is the eldest in a family of ten children born to Henry and Louisa (Johnson) Poss. The father was born in the state of New York and the mother in Denmark. The parents are both living in the town of Wells, and are numbered among the most progressive people of that section. Jacob attended the public schools of his neighborhood until he was sixteen years old; he remained at home until he was twenty-three, employed at farm work, and afterwards spent four years in Sparta, engaged in teaming. In 1909, associated with his brother, he purchased a farm of 320 acres in sections twenty-five and twenty-six, Leon township, where he now makes his home with his sister. He carries on general farming and makes a specialty of breeding and dealing in Holstein cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Poss adheres to the principles of the Republican party, and is one of the wide-awake young farmers of Cannon Valley.

John Purdy, one of the substantial farmers and leading citizens of Pleasant Valley, Greenfield township, was born in Middleport, N. Y., August 11, 1854, and is the fourth child of a family of six children born to Daniel C. and Susan (Savage) Purdy, natives of New York state. They came to Wisconsin in 1859, when our subject was five years old. Soon after their arrival in Sparta, they moved to Greenfield township, where they located and settled on three forties of wild land, to which they afterwards made addition. He cleared the land and made a home for himself and family, and engaged in general farming and stock raising, and there the parents made their home until their decease. The father died in 1881, at the age of sixty-four, and the mother passed away in 1884. They were thrifty and energetic, and considered among the best class of pioneer settlers and held the confidence and esteem of all who knew them, and in honor of the family the section where they lived was named "Purdy Valley." Of their other children besides our subject, E. A. Purdy died in Purdy Valley in April, 1911, at the age of sixty-four years; Mary resides in Tomah, and is the wife of Albert Dixon;

Frank also resides at Tomah; Emma married Fred Heser, of Greenfield, and Byron is also a resident of Greenfield.

John J. Purdy, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the district school and remained at home assisting with the work on the farm until he reached the age of nineteen, when he started life on his own resources; he first rented a farm, which he carried on until 1876, when he purchased the first forty acres of his present farm, to which he added until now he has one of the best farms of 100 acres, where he lives, to be found in the county. He has also purchased forty acres in Grant township and forty acres in La Grange. When he began on this farm, the greater part of it was covered with heavy timber, which he cleared, subdued and brought to a high state of cultivation, erecting a commodious residence and outbuildings, and has made various other improvements as conditions demanded. He keeps his place well supplied with modern equipments, and in his farming operations employs the most up-to-date methods. Mr. Purdy comes from one of the old line and representative families of the county, and is considered one of Monroe county's well-to-do and most influential citizens. In all public matters of his town and county, he takes a prominent part, and any movement for the betterment of his community receives his hearty support. He has been a member of the Side board for two years and assessor for his town for two years.

He was married October 24, 1875, to Miss Elizabeth Oakley, accomplished daughter of Nehemiah and Fannie (Woodard) Oakley, pioneers and influential citizens of Greenfield township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. To Mr. and Mrs. Purdy have been born five children, viz.: Adelbert, who resides in the town of La Grange; Estella is the wife of Albert Griffin, of Grant township; Lettie, the wife of Leslie Hart, who resides in the town of Grant; Milo A. lives on the homestead farm, and Mabel A. lives at home. Mrs. Purdy is the third child of a family of seven children; the others are: Sarah, deceased; Elveretta, wife of Stowell Brown; Wellington, of Oregon; Oscar, of Washington; Mina, the wife of H. Griffin, of Grant township, and Arcenith, wife of Edwin Purdy, of Greenfield township.

Thomas Quinn, one of Monroe county's prosperous farmers and highly esteemed citizens, was born in County Maide, Ireland, in 1831. His parents were William and Betsey (Waters) Quinn, who lived and died in Ireland. When seventeen years of age, in 1848, Thomas emigrated to the United States, and after his arrival worked six years on a farm in Chester county, New York.

JOHN PURDY AND FAMILY

At the end of that time he came West, working for six months at Dixon, Ill., then moved to Waukesha county, Wisconsin, and worked on a farm until 1861. In the last named year he came to Monroe county, and settled on eighty acres of land in section eight, Wellington township, which he had previously purchased. This land he cleared and brought to a good state of cultivation, and improved by erecting a comfortable residence, good barns and other farm buildings, making it one of the good farm homes in the town. He has added to his original purchase from time to time, until he now has 160 acres of as good land as is to be found in the township. From 1861 to 1864 he worked for a lumber company, getting out pine logs, which he rafted down the Kickapoo river.

In 1865 he enlisted in the Fifty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served on the frontier until his regiment was mustered out. He was a brave and efficient soldier, and served with honor to himself and his country.

He was married in New York state in 1853, to Miss Jane Quirk, by whom he had two children, one son and one daughter, viz.: Elizabeth married James Barry, a prosperous farmer of the same township; they had six children: Thomas, Ettie Jane, Mary, Theresa, Josephine, Ambrose, Blanch and Sylvester. William Quinn, the youngest, married Miss Catherine Daugherty, dalughter of Eugene and Mary (Gehan) Daugherty. Their children are: Raymond, Arthur, Barnard, Thomas, Earl W., Edward A. and Erwin J.

After many years of faithful devotion to her husband and children, Mrs. Thomas Quinn died, November 5, 1892, honored and respected by all who knew her. Thomas Quinn is a member of the Grand Army Post at Newark, Wis., and has always taken a keen interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his county, and has been clerk of the school board. Coming to America without means, he has by honest and persistent effort gained a place among the well-to-do farmers of Monroe county.

Louis Radke,* who owns one of the best 160-acre farms in Wellington township, was born July 7, 1875, in La Salle county, Illinois, the son of Louis and Caroline (Bartz) Radke, both natives of Germany. Louis, Sr., came to America in 1872 and located in La Salle county, where he was married and worked for about eleven years in the zinc factories, and in 1883 moved to Wisconsin and bought three forty-acre tracts of land in section nine, in the township of Wellington, which was made the family homestead, and where Mr. Radke died in 1910. He made

many improvements on his farm after he bought it: a new residence was built in 1891 and a barn in 1900, and, with the other commodious outbuildings which correspond, makes it an ideal country home. Mrs. Radke, his widow, is still living, at the age of sixty years. They were both members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Radke, formerly a Democrat in politics, was affiliated with the Republican party during the latter years of his life. They had a family of five children, four of whom are now living.

Louis, Jr., is the fourth child. He attended the district schools until he was seventeen and always lived at home on the farm, the mainstay of his parents. He was married September 5, 1907, in the town of Wilton, Monroe county, to Miss Anna Schroder, daughter of John and Anna Schroder. She is the fifth of a family of ten children, and her father was one of the early German settlers of Monroe county, and died in 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Radke have three children: Ila, Wilmer and Werner.

Mr. Radke is a successful general farmer and a good lively citizen. In connection with his farming, he has a fine dairy business and keeps his farm well supplied with a good grade of stock. He is independent in his politics, and both he and his wife are devoted members of the Lutheran church.

W——H. Randall, a native of Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born in section sixteen, Tomah township, May 10, 1857. He is the son of John and Ann (Watson) Randall, natives of England, who came to America, their family locating near Beloit, Wis., where he homesteaded eighty acres of land, residing there until 1855, when they removed to Monroe county, locating in the town of Tomah, where the father purchased eighty acres of land, to which was later added forty acres, all being in section sixteen. Mr. Randall, father of our subject, made this his permanent home until his death in 1876. His widow, mother of our subject, is still living at the age of eighty-three years. John Randall was one of the early pioneers of the town of Tomah, which had only a few settlers in that early day, which was before the city of Tomah was started. The farm which he by incessant toil brought to a fine state of cultivation, and made into a valuable home, was at the time of its purchase covered with a thick growth of timber. Mr. Randall was a sincere Christian gentleman and a consistent and faithful member of the Church of England. Mrs. Randall, mother of our subject, is a Baptist in religious belief.

W. H. is the only son in a family of four children, three of

whom are living. As he grew to manhood, much of the responsibility of the farm devolved upon him, and he performed an important part in the clearing and grubbing of the land on the homestead, bringing it to a high state of cultivation, so that when Mr. Randall came into possession of this farm he found himself on the road to success, conducting a lucrative dairy business, and his farm is now well stocked with good horses and cattle, making a specialty of Poland-China hogs. The farm residence where he now resides was built in 1865, and the barn was built in 1863. Our subject has held the office of town clerk for two terms, and has been school director for thirty-two years. He with his estimable wife were members of the Baptist church.

December 23, 1880, he was united in marriage with Miss Eva Dewey, daughter of N. Dewey, a prominent pioneer citizen of Ridgeville township. The Dewey family came from Vermont and settled in Ridgeville township. Mrs. Randall was one of a family of three children. She died in 1890. One daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Randall: Grace L., born May 20, 1886. She was educated in the district school and is a member of the class of 1904, Tomah High School. Mr. Randall affiliates with the Republican party, and was a director in the old Tunnel City Creamery and a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery of Tomah.

Fred C. Rath is one of the pioneers and prosperous and thrifty farmers of Little Falls township. He was born at Hoboken, N. J., October 8, 1855, the son of Charles and Mary (Blindt) Rath, natives of Germany. In 1860, when our subject was five years of age, his parents came west to Wisconsin and settled in Little Falls township, Monroe county, and were among the early and most highly respected citizens of that town. During the Civil War the father enlisted and served with distinction until his death in 1864, at Nashville, Tenn., leaving his widow, mother of our subject, with a family of six children. Fred was engaged in the milling business in Minnesota until he married, then returned to the old homestead, and later purchased another farm, which made him an extensive wheat farm, and has since followed the raising of wheat and stock.

On October 4, 1879, Mr. Rath was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Risser, daughter of Andreas and Salome Risser, well-to-do citizens of Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Rath have been born three children: they are Pearl M., Russell R., and Floyd C. Rath.

Frank J. Rehberg, proprietor of the Highland dairy farm in section thirty-six, Greenfield township, Monroe county, one of the most progressive farmers of his town and county, was born in Adrian township, October 29, 1872. His parents, Egidius, native of Germany, and Agnes (Zastoupil) Rehberg, a native of Austria, came to America, and the father settled first at Neilsville, Wis., thence came to Monroe county and located in Adrian township, where he married and continued to reside until November, 1910; they then moved to the city of Tomah, where they have since lived. They are the parents of nine children, viz.: Frank, Otto, Agnes, William, Anna, Joseph, John, all residents of Monroe county, and two who died in infancy.

Frank J. was reared on the home farm, spending his boyhood attending the district school and helping with the farm work. He remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-two, then started out for himself. He first purchased a team, and for one year was engaged in hauling milk for Bernard Drowatzky, and continued in that occupation for three seasons, then married and purchased a farm in Ridgeville township, which he carried on for two years, at the same time hauling cream, and at the end of that time he was employed by the Elgin Creamery Company and for four years operated creameries for them at various points; he next rented a farm in Adrian township, which he conducted for two years, and in 1904 purchased his present farm of 100 acres in Greenfield township, which he has since carried on successfully. The place is well improved with up-to-date buildings, and the soil is in a high state of cultivation; he has cleared fifteen acres since he owned it, and in 1908 erected a modern residence and in 1910 equipped it with additional modern appliances; in 1909 he built his silo and hen house and established a system of water works. The barn is thirty by sixty feet, with sixteen-foot posts and sits on a wall of quarry stone. Mr. Rehberg makes a specialty of Jersey cattle, and by his daily record is able to tell what each cow produces in money value, and with his milk separator, pure water and modern inventions, together with the advantages of the agricultural course he pursued at the University of Wisconsin, he is able to bring about results from scientific methods in keeping with his day and age.

In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Rehberg takes a commendable interest in the affairs of his town and county. He has been school director in Adrian township, road supervisor, treasurer of the school district and school clerk. He was married, October 29, 1896, to Miss Mary Drowatzky, daughter of Bernard

and Ernestine (Kurst) Drowatzky, natives of Germany and residents of Tomah. They came to America more than fifty years ago and were among the early settlers of Monroe county. Mr. and Mrs. Rehberg have a family of four children, viz.: Alva E., Harold C., Raymond L. and Arthur I. Mrs. Rehberg is a former well known teacher in Monroe county, and is the seventh child in order of birth in a family of fourteen children, eleven of whom are now living (1912), as follows: Ernest W., a resident of Wichita, Kan.; Frank O., of Tomah; Anna B., wife of George Davis, of Elroy, Wis.; Charles B., cashier of the Tomah State Bank; Ida, wife of L. J. Pingle, Tomah township; Minnie L., wife of H. J. Coleman, Omak, Wash.; Dora F., a teacher in Oregon; Bertha D., a teacher at Tomah; Rosa D., teacher in Washington, and Ella S., teacher in Tomah. In religious faith, both Mr. and Mrs. Rehberg are members of the German Lutheran church of Tomah.

John W. Reich,* a representative German of Monroe county, who resides on his farm in section twenty-five, Greenfield township, was born in Prussia, December 7, 1841. His parents, Frederick and Dorothy (Riek) Reich, were also natives of Prussia, where the father spent his life. His widow, mother of our subject, afterward came to Tunnel City to live with her son. In the year 1868, Mr. Reich came to Monroe county and established himself in a blacksmith shop, and, after following his trade for ten years, in 1878 he purchased his present farm of seventy-five acres, which is now conducted by his son, Albert I. Reich. The land has been brought to a high state of cultivation and is well improved with a good and substantial class of buildings, all of which have been built since he purchased the farm.

Mr. Reich is one of the successful men of his county; has always been honorable and upright in his dealings, and enjoys the confidence and respect of the citizens generally. He has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his town, has been a member of the town board, a member of the school board, treasurer of the town and justice of the peace. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias Lodge and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Coming to Monroe county in an early day, Mr. Reich has seen and done his full share in developing it from a comparative wilderness to a place among the banner counties of the state. He relates many interesting incidents relative to the stirring scenes in and around Tunnel City, when the Indians were much more in evidence than the whites, and when the actual settlement of the county began on the arrival of the railroad. He was married in 1871 to Miss Henrietta Byer, also a native of Germany, and they

have had three children, viz.: Amandus lives in LaGrange township; Albert I. resides on the home farm with his father, and Alexander lives in Montana. Albert I. Reich has served seven terms as clerk of the township. He enlisted as private in Company K, Third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, in 1898, and served with his regiment in Porto Rico during the Spanish-American war.

John Rhyme was brought up to the life of a farmer boy by his father and, like the majority of sons, has followed in his father's footsteps and is now the successful manager of his fine farm of 215 acres situated in section fifteen, Sparta township. On this place is a model residence equipped with many modern conveniences. His barn, stables and other outbuildings are also well constructed and in good condition. His farm is well stocked with a good grade of horses and Durham cattle. On October 9, 1865, Mr. Rhyme was born in Bloomfield township, Walworth county, Wisconsin, to Henry and Minnie (Vussler) Rhyme, both natives of Germany, and who after marriage came to the United States in 1862 and settled in Walworth county, where for two years the father was employed at farm work. He afterwards removed to La Crosse county with his family, and there purchased a farm in Farmington township, where he resided until February, 1905, when he removed to the city of Sparta, which has since been the family home. Mr. and Mrs. Rhyme reared a family of nine children, viz.: John, the subject of this sketch; Eliza, wife of Theodore Pfaff, lives in Burns township, La Crosse county; Bessie is the wife of Christ Johnson, of Bangor, Wis.; Emma is the wife of George Jones, of La Crosse county; Clara is the wife of Julius Johnson and resides in Sparta township, where Mr. Johnson is engaged in farming; Mary married Ernest Cissna, of Watonwon county, Minnesota; Fred, of Sparta; Augusta is the wife of Leslie Hall, and Frank, of Watonwon county, Minnesota.

John attended the common school of Farmington, La Crosse county, and acquired sufficient education to fit him for the practical duties of life, and remained on the home farm near Farmington until February 15, 1898, when he bought his present farm, which is known as the Rowley farm, from Lucas Herrman. For the three years last past, Mr. Rhyme was a resident of Sparta, having rented his farm, but during the early spring of 1912 he decided to return to active farm work, and since then has lived on his home place. During the years 1910 and 1911 he was overseer of the township in cutting down ridges and improving the highways, and much work in this line is due to his good management. His intelligence, integrity and many other estimable quali-

ties have acquired for him a popularity not derived from any fictitious circumstances but a permanent and spontaneous tribute to his merit, and he numbers among his friends the best people of the county.

Bessie Herrman, the amiable and cultured daughter of William Herrman, of Burr Oak, Wis., became his wife December 10, 1890, and they have one son, Ralph John Rhyme.

Edward C. Rice, who has been a successful farmer of Wilton township, was born June 8, 1862, in Monroe county, Wisconsin, the son of Patrick and Mary (Nash) Rice, both natives of Ireland. Patrick came to America in 1854 and remained for a short time in New York, then moved to Walworth county, this state, and located in Troy Center, where he worked as a farm hand for about one year, and then, loading his whole personal paraphernalia into a wagon drawn by an ox team, he started for Monroe county, traveling over stony hills and rough roads until he reached Wilton township, and there purchased an eighty-acre tract of wild land and immediately set to work to clear and improve it. This was in section twenty, and he later added another eighty acres in section twenty-one, which was their home until 1890, then moved to Tomah and made their home the remainder of their lives. They were married in 1857 and had a family of seven children. Mrs. Rice died in 1903, and her husband on July 15, 1911. They were highly respected people and valuable citizens to the community.

Edward C. was the second child and obtained a good common school education, attending school until he was sixteen. He bought a farm of 195 acres in section thirty-two, Wilton township, where he lived about three years, and then bought 160 acres in section seventeen of Wilton township, which he still owns, lived here ten years and then bought a home in the village of Wilton in 1911, their present residence.

Mr. Rice was a bright and prosperous farmer and a good Democrat. He is at present buyer for the Farmers' Live Stock Association of Wilton, has been chairman of the town board, was supervisor for three years and was a member of the school board for a long time. He is also interested in the Farmers' Creamery Association.

Mrs. Rice is one of a family of five children, three of whom are living. She was a successful teacher for several years in Monroe county schools, being a graduate of Wilton high school. Her father, James Kerrigan, came from Ireland in the sixties and was married in 1867 to Margaret Fitzgerald. They were highly respected people and lived in Wilton at the time of his death in

1905. Her mother is still living. The farm they owned, in section twenty-nine, Wilton township, contained 200 acres of land. They were devoted members of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. Kerrigan was a Democrat.

David R. Richards, of section twelve, Little Falls township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, was born April 24, 1860, and reared here on the old homestead which he now owns, and where he has always resided. He is the son of Thomas and Catherine (Williams) Richards, both natives of Wales, and who emigrated to the United States March 9, 1842. They settled near Waukesha, Wis., and in 1854 came to Little Falls township and here made their home and reared their family. They endured all the hardships which the new settler usually undergoes in undertaking to subdue and fit a new country and place it in a finished condition, which that part of the country is at this time. They lived to reap the reward of their labors and enjoy the comfort of a prosperous and happy home. Thomas Richards ended his life's work on February 27, 1897, and the mother passed away on March 20, 1885, Their other children besides our subject were: Roger; Anna, is the widow of John Evans, of Madison, Wis., and has two daughters, Gertrude and Alice, and one son, Wilfred; John H. married Maggie Davis and lives in Langford, Marshall county, South Dakota. Their children are: Amelia, Margery, Alma and Kendrick. Thomas W. died aged twenty-two.

David R. received his education in the district schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of twenty-two years assumed control of the home farm. As a young man, he helped to clear the land and since that time has made many improvements in the residence and outbuildings and brought the land to a high state of cultivation. His farm of 530-acres is well stocked with good horses and short-horned cattle, and, with the ample supply of modern machinery and the improved methods employed by him in its operation, makes his one of the up-to-date country homes of the county.

Mr. Richads is a strong believer in the cause of temperance and is always interested in any movement tending toward the betterment of the community in general. In 1894-5 he was elected a member of the board of supervisors and has been re-elected until he is now serving his eighth term. He has been clerk of the school district for twenty-one years, and during the past year has devoted much time in the interest of township improvements. As chairman of the town board, Mr. Richards was the promoter of the scheme to cut down the Cataract and Winters Ridge, which

for many years has proven the dread of every man who had occasion to travel over it. From the pioneer days to the present, there have been numerous efforts made to have this ridge cut down, but none were crowned with success until Mr. Richards became interested in the enterprise, put his shoulder to the wheel and, by private subscription, raised about $1,500 with which he, assisted by August Schlaver, accomplished the object for which others had been wishing for fifty years, building an entire new road and establishing a uniform grade of 10 per cent as against 18 per cent on the old road.

On March 24, 1887, Mr. Richards was united in marriage with Miss Hannah E. Cody, daughter of Daniel W. and Alvira S. (Tompkins) Cody, natives of central New York. Mrs. Richards' ancestry dates back to the Puritans who came over in the Mayflower. When she was five years of age, she moved with her parents to Illinois, and seven years later came to Wisconsin and settled at Cataract, in Monroe county. Her father, Daniel W. Cody, was the first stage driver from Cataract to Black River Falls, and for twenty years prior to the establishment of the rural free delivery he carried the United States mail between Sparta and Cataract. He was also engaged in farming, owning 200 acres adjoining the village of Cataract. Mrs. Richards has one brother, Orville S. Cody, of Cataract. To Mr. and Mrs. Richards have been born four children: Forrest O., born March 4, 1890, graduate of Sparta high school class of 1909, also a graduate of the agricultural department of the Wisconsin State University; Edna R., born August 16, 1893, graduate of Sparta high school class of 1911, and now attending Downer College, Milwaukee; Annie E., born November 2, 1899, and Erma I., born November 23, 1903.

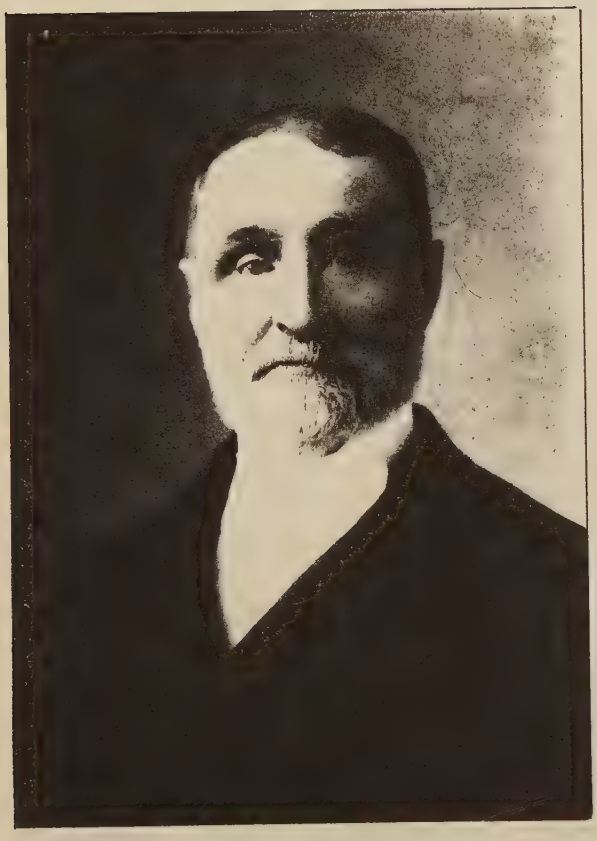
In social affairs Mr. Richards is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Thomas Richards, deceased, pioneer of Little Falls township, was born in Wales, June 16, 1817, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Price) Richards. His father died when he was an infant of nine months. His mother lived to be fifty-two years old. Thomas, Jr., was reared by his maternal grandparents, who were well-to-do farmers; he early became accustomed to various branches of agriculture and the labor necessary to be performed. His education was received in the select schools of the country. After he reached maturity he worked in the coal mines three or four years, but finally determined to emigrate to America. In 1842 he sailed from Liverpool for New York, and was at sea twenty-nine days.

After arriving at port, he continued his journey to Canada, where he remained for two months, thence came to Wisconsin and settled in Waukesha county and engaged in farming. When the gold fever of 1849 swept the country, the attraction became irresistible and he started for the Pacific coast. Joining some friends, he went by team to St. Louis, Mo., thence by river to New Orleans; thence he sailed for Panama, crossed the Isthmus, walking twenty miles of the distance, and sailed from the western coast for San Francisco; this voyage consumed forty-nine days. They landed at San Francisco, and Mr. Richards went at once to Sacramento, then to the American river; there he engaged in mining for the precious ore, but did not remain long. He went into the mountains for two months, but still fortune did not smile upon him, and his next point was Trinity river; there he met with fair success. After two and one-half years spent in the golden state, Mr. Richards returned to Wisconsin. On the coast of South America he was wrecked and had to wait ten weeks to get a boat bound for the United States. He landed in New Orleans, came by boat to Cincinnati and thence by rail to Chicago. These three years were filled with various experiences, such as will probably never be repeated in the history of the country, and in reviewing them they appear in the distance more as a romance than as the stern reality they were to the "forty-niners."

Mr. Richards moved to Monroe county in 1854 and settled in Little Falls township on a tract of wild land, where he devoted his time and energies to agriculture and was the pioneer cheese maker of Monroe county; he made a specialty of the dairy business, which he carried on with great profit. The old farm of Mr. Richards contained 250 acres, and he later invested in other lands and became the owner of between five and six hundred acres of Monroe county's choicest soil.

At the age of twenty-five years, Mr. Richards was married to Miss Catherine Williams, a daughter of Roger and Magdalene Williams, and of this union were born five children, viz.: T. W., Roger H., Anna, David and John H. Mr. Richards represented the people of his township in various local offices, and discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the public. He affiliated with the Republican party and was an ardent supporter of prohibition. His long and useful life brought him the respect and admiration of his fellow citizens, a record which is its own commentary. He died February 27, 1897, at the age of eighty years; Mrs. Richards passed away March 20, 1885, deeply mourned by her family and friends.



THOMAS RICHARDS

Clyde C. Richardson* ranks among the younger class of successful farmers of Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he was born on February 4, 1878, to Joel F. and Martha (Keith) Richardson, both natives of Ohio. The father, before his marriage, came on a prospecting tour to the Leon Valley and after a time returned to his home, was married and came back to Monroe county and located in the Leon Valley, where his grandfather had preceded him and located some years before on a farm of 150 acres, on which he resided until it was purchased by Joel F. He was kind-hearted and generous and held the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. His death occurred in 1884; his widow, mother of our subject, still survives (1912) at the age of sixty-one years.

Clyde C., one of a family of five children, was reared on the home farm, where he remained until he reached his majority. He attended the district schools until he was eighteen, assisting in the farm work, and afterward spent one year in the Sparta high school. When he became of age, he and his brother purchased the old homestead, which they divided equally and worked with success, and our subject now, while yet a young man, is considered one of the most successful and influential farmers of Leon. He carries on general farming and stock raising, his specialty being hogs, and is quite extensively engaged in dairying.

On July 11, 1908, he was married to Miss Clara Hogen, and they have two children, Merlin, born April 20, 1909, and Vadis, born November 20, 1910.

Eli A. Richardson, secretary and manager of the Fruit Growers' Association of Sparta, is the seventh of a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters—six of whom are now living—born to E. B. and Sylvia (Sweat) Richardson, natives of Vermont and Ohio respectively. During the year of 1852 they came to Wisconsin and settled on a farm in Burns township, La Crosse county, and there reared their family and passed their lives. They were thrifty, progressive people and ranked among the leading pioneers of that community. Both are now deceased.

Mr. Richardson was born in Burns township, La Crosse county, on December 20, 1858, and, being reared on a farm, his experience was the same as that of most boys, receiving his education in the district schools and helping with the farm work, where he spent his early days. In 1879 he went to Colorado and lived at Leadville, in that state, during the great strike; from there he moved to New Mexico, where he remained for a time, his entire western trip covering a period of five years, then returned to Wisconsin and again took up the farming business in La Crosse county, fol-

lowing it for three years, whence he removed to Sparta in 1889 and engaged in the sale of small fruits, which he still continues, and is now considered one of Sparta's most progressive and substantial citizens.

Mr. Richardson was one of the promoters of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association (incorporated), which was organized in May, 1896, with I. S. Fisher president, W. H. Hanchett vice president, T. M. Bowler secretary and C. G. Hettman treasurer. The association now has a membership of 300 and is instrumental in promoting the interests of the farmers and fruit growers of Monroe county. The extensive business of the organization is operated from their large jobbing house at Sparta under the general management of Mr. Richardson, and gives a ready market for everything in the line of farmers' produce, which includes nearly all the products of the county which are handled even in carload lots from various localities.

Besides his exceptional business qualifications, Mr. Richardson is a man of fine social qualities, kind-hearted and genial, and popular in the circles in which he moves. He is domestic in his tastes and craves no greater delight than he finds in his home and family. He is identified with numerous fraternal and social organizations, being a member and Past Master of Valley Lodge, No. 60, Free and Accepted Masons, a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Union. For four years he has been a member of the city council and was two years president of that body.

On November 11, 1886, Mr. Richardson was united in marriage with Miss Elmina Gilfillan, daughter of Stephen Gilfillan, one of the influential citizens of Burns township in La Crosse county. Their children are Pearl E. and Sylvia I. Richardson.

William Richgruber. Among the wideawake and progressive farmers of Pleasant Valley is he whose name heads this biography. Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, November 3, 1853, to George and Mary (Halebery) Richgruber, he attended the common schools in his native town, and in 1879 came to America, first locating in Chicago, Ill., where he was employed as a stationary engineer in a glue factory. He remained there for some time, then came to Monroe county and purchased 200 acres of land in Pleasant Valley, four and one half miles from the village of Leon, where he has since remained successfully engaged in general farming. His place is under a good state of cultivation and improved with substantial buildings. He employs modern methods in his farming operations, and from his twenty head of milch cows does a profit-

able dairy business. He is considered one of the substantial men of his locality and is public-spirited and enterprising.

He was married January 3, 1881, to Miss Matilda Sorensen and they have an interesting family of seven children, viz.: Albert, born October 7, 1882; William, born October 17, 1883; Agnes, born February 2, 1886; Mathida, born September 23, 1888; Anna, born October 5, 1892; Martin, born December 19, 1895, and Mabel, born March 1, 1898.

George H. Robertson, ex-county superintendent of schools, is a native son of Monroe county, and was born August 11, 1868, son of Methven and Euphema (Cassels) Robertson, pioneers of Monroe county. The father was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, March 24, 1823, a son of John and Christina (Methven) Robertson, and came to America in 1842, settling in Massachusetts, where he was joined by his father and family in 1845. In 1857 they came to Wisconsin and located on a farm of 240 acres of land in sections twenty-six and twenty-seven, town of Tomah, which the father purchased from John Hineman, and the following year bought eighty acres from Samuel McClure in section twenty-seven. They erected a log cabin, twenty-four by sixteen feet, and in this made their home until 1871, when Mr. Robertson, father of our subject, built a residence twenty-two by twenty-eight feet, with a wing twenty-four by twenty-eight feet, and later an addition sixteen by twenty-four feet and twelve by twenty-four feet. His father, grandfather of our subject, was a weaver by trade, which he followed until coming to Wisconsin, and was then engaged in farming until his death in the spring of 1880, at the age of eighty-five years.

Methven Robertson received a limited education and was employed in the woolen mills until coming to his farm in Wisconsin. He owned 200 acres of well improved land, well stocked with Jersey cattle, horses and hogs. September 1, 1864, he enlisted in the Civil War in Company K, Forty-third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles of Johnsonville and Nashville, and was discharged June 24, 1865.

He was married, in 1846, to Euphęma Cassels, who was born in Scotland in 1828 and died in the spring of 1880. They had fourteen children, five of whom survive: Methven, David, George, Robert and Mary. The father died in 1899.

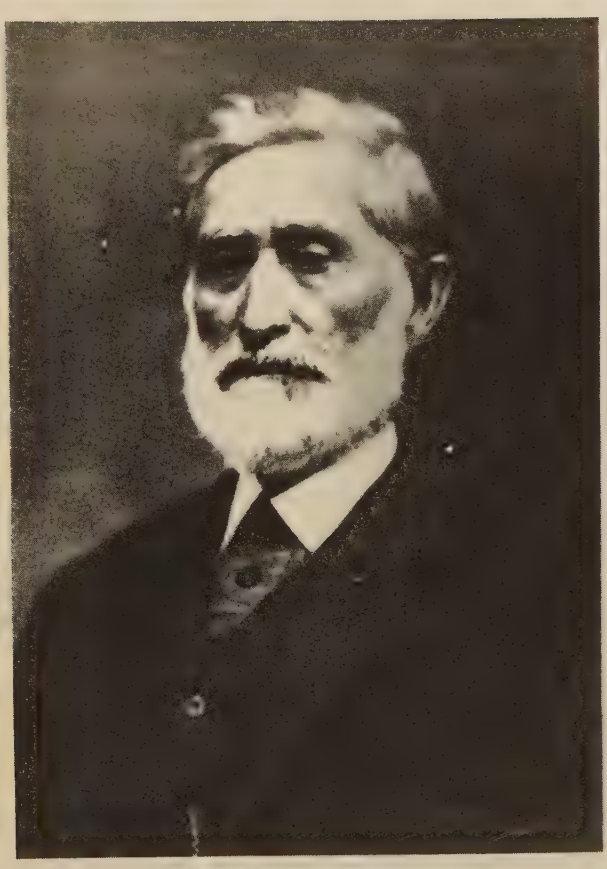
George received his preliminary education in the district school and the Tomah high school, graduating from the latter in the class of 1895. Before attending high school, he taught school six winters. After finishing high school he became principal of the

Glendale school one year and of the Kendall school two years. In November, 1902, he was elected county superintendent, serving until 1907. In 1899, in connection with his brother-in-law, David S. Moore, he built the Glendale flour and feed mill, which was operated under the firm name of Robertson & Moore; Mr. Robertson, later purchasing the interest of Mr. Moore, carried on the business under the name of George H. Robertson Company, under whose management the business prospered. Mr. Robertson has recently sold the milling business to A. J. Clark, but remains as its manager. Mr. Robertson was manager six years, manager and treasurer two years and manager and secretary one year of the Glendale Co-operative Creamery Association. In 1912 he was elected clerk of the town of Glendale, and is also clerk of the Glendale graded school.

In fraternal matters he is a member of the I. O. G. T. and the Knights of Pythias Lodge. Of the latter he is a past chancellor. He was married August 11, 1896, at Glendale, to Miss Sadie A. Moore, youngest daughter of David and Mary Moore, natives of Connecticut and Vermont. Mrs. Robertson is a highly educated and cultured lady, and a former teacher. One daughter has been born to this union, Laverne, born August 17, 1897, is now the second year in high school at Kendall.

Richard H. Rogers, who for nearly thirty years was a prominent and successful citizen of Monroe county, was born in Saratoga county, New York, October 13, 1809. His father, Jeremiah Rogers, was a native of New York state, and at the age of sixteen years enlisted as a soldier in the War of the Revolution, serving until the end of that struggle. The mother of Richard H., whose maiden name was Phoebe Hart, was also a native of New York state. When our subject was but seven years of age, he removed with his parents to Seneca county, that state, where they remained some twelve years, thence moved to Huron county, Ohio, where they spent the balance of their lives; the father died at the age of sixty years, and the mother at the age of sixty-five years. Jeremiah Rogers was a shoemaker by trade, and in politics was a staunch supporter of the Jacksonian principles.

Richard H. Rogers, following in the footsteps of his father, learned the shoemaker's trade, which vocation he followed until he was twenty-three years of age, whence he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and made a specialty of breeding fine sheep. He was successful, and became widely known as an authority upon all subjects pertaining to the breeding and care of sheep. In 1869 he sold his farm in Erie county, Ohio, and



RICHARD H. ROGERS

came West to Wisconsin and settled in Monroe county. He purchased from S. Holbrook a tract of seventy-five acres of land of as fertile soil as lies within the county. He raised some fine specimens of registered stock, including sheep and cattle; from one ewe, weighing sixty-five pounds, he sheared twenty-four and a half pounds of wool, a record rarely equaled, and almost never excelled; his cattle were of high grade and full blooded. The buildings on the place are neat and substantial, arranged for comfort and convenience.

At the age of twenty-three years, Mr. Rogers married, in Erie county, Ohio, Miss Lucy Tucker, a daughter of H. Tucker. By this marriage two children were born: Richard H. and Lucy In 1860 Mr. Rogers was united in marriage with Rebecca Smith, daughter of Elisha and Julia Ann (Ashton) Smith, of Guernsey county, Ohio, and who came to Wisconsin and settled six miles south of Viroqua, in Vernon county, where the father engaged in shoemaking and farming. He was born on February 27, 1811, and died February 4, 1879. Julia Ann Smith, daughter of William and Mary Ashton, was born December 11, 1817, and died in Vernon county in 1887. They had two sons who participated in the Civil War: William S., of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and Harrison, of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Mr. Rogers died January 17, 1895, at the age of eighty-five years, and left, besides his widow, two sons: U. Grant and John Murray. On January 16, 1904, Mrs. Rogers married George Bradley, and for more than fifty years has lived in her present home on section ten, in Sparta township.

Ernst Rogge, a lifelong resident of Monroe county, was born in the town of Oakdale, January 16, 1867, the son of Henry and Johanna (Resler) Rogge, natives of Germany and Austria, respectively. The father came to America in 1856, and first located at Milwaukee, Wis., where he was employed as a laborer for a time, and later moved to Columbus. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in Company D, Sixteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, on October 7, 1861, and was transferred to Company E, same regiment, November 1, 1862, and mustered out of service July 12, 1865, having served his country for three years, nine months and five days. Among the battles in which he participated were the battles of Shiloh, Corinth and Atlanta. He was a brave and gallant soldier, and was twice wounded, once severely while in the front ranks at Atlanta, Ga. After his discharge he returned to Columbus, where he was married the following year, and moved to Oakdale township. Here he pur-

chased ninety acres of land, to which he added from time to time until he acquired about 220 acres. He was one of the early settlers of the township, and there made his home until 1903, then moved to Tomah and passed the remainder of his life; he died on May 18, 1911, at the age of seventy-five years, eleven months and twenty-nine days. The mother still (1912) survives at the age of sixty-seven years. They reared a family of twelve children, eight of whom—three sons and five daughters—are living. He was a thrifty and progressive farmer and lived to enjoy the fruits of many years of toil and hardships in converting a tract of wilderness into the beautiful home he left.

Ernst attended the district schools until he was sixteen years old, and remained at home assisting in the management of the farm until he was twenty-seven. In 1894 he was married, in the town of Tomah, to Miss Amelia Pingel, daughter of Joseph and Mrs. Pingel. Mrs. Rogge passed away the same year of her marriage, and in 1898 Mr. Rogge again married, this time to Mrs. Anna Ott, daughter of John and Mrs. Hintz, of Oakdale. They have three children, viz.: Irene, Emma and Ernest. Mrs. Rogge is one of a family of five children, four girls and one boy. Her parents came from Germany to Waukesha county in 1853, and moved to Monroe county in 1858.

In 1894 Mr. Rogge purchased a farm of 160 acres in section twenty, Wilton township, which has since been his home. He made many improvements, built a substantial barn in 1900, and a modern residence the following year, and the highly cultivated state of his land makes his farm one of the most fertile and productive in the Slaten Creek valley. Two excellent wells operated by a wind engine supply his residence and barn with pure water, and in addition to general farming he makes a specialty of dairying. He is independent in his political opinions and takes a keen interest in the affairs of his township. He served two years as town treasurer, was chairman of the town board for three years, and in February, 1912, was elected president of the Farmers' Creamery Association. Himself and family are members of the Lutheran church.

William F. Rogge, of Oakdale township, is a son of Henry and Johanna (Resler) Rogge, and was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, on August 4, 1879. He obtained a good education in the district schools, attending until he was eighteen years of age, and lived at home until he was twenty-three. On June 3, 1903, he was married to Miss Henrietta Giesler, daughter of Robert and Matilda Giesler. Mr. and Mrs. Rogge have had four chil-

dren, three of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Agnes May, born November 1, 1904; Glacia Matilda, born February 20, 1908, and Norma Louretta, born July 6, 1910.

After their marriage, Mr. Rogge purchased a farm of 260 acres in sections nineteen and twenty in the town of Oakdale, which he has since continued to improve and beautify until it is one of the ideal country homes in Monroe county. The soil is highly productive and the water supply comes from natural springs in the hillside. They have a comfortable residence and commodious outbuildings, and in connection with his general farming he carries on a profitable dairy business, and the place is well stocked with the best breed of cattle, horses, hogs, etc. He is thoroughly up to date with his farming methods and is a man of good judgment in other lines of business. He was one of the organizers of the Oakdale Creamery Association, is independent in politics, and uses his own best judgment when he votes. He is interested in the affairs of his town and county and favors all movements for their further development.

William Rondorf resides on the old homestead farm in Jefferson township, where he was born November 18, 1866, the son of Hilarius and Anna Maria (Schell) Rondorf, both natives of Germany. The father was born in Bergheim, a village in the district of Siegburg, Germany, December 23, 1828, and was the first one of that name to emigrate to America. The mother was born July 28, 1830; they were married May 18, 1851, in Bergheim, Germany, and lived with his father until he died in 1854. On April 27, 1854, they left Antwerp on the sailing vessel "Leopold I," bound for New York. On their arrival here they came to Dane county, Wisconsin, where they became homeless and moneyless. Meeting a felloy countryman who sympathized with them, they were offered the hospitality of his home on the farm, where the father labored in the field and the mother in the house. Here they made their home until they had earned and saved sufficient means with which to purchase a small farm of eighty acres in Jefferson township, Monroe county, the farm being purchased June 1, 1860. They started from Dane county with an ox team, and after two days and nights on the road they reached their future home in the then new country. They built a small house, which has since been enlarged and improved. On February 19, 1865, he enlisted in Company K, Forty-sixth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers; the regiment was then stationed at Athens, Ala. At the early close of the war, he was discharged September 27, 1865, returning home October 12, the same year. Mr. Rondorf

had received a liberal education in his native country, was a liberal reader, and was posted on all current events of the day. He was economical and thrifty, honorable and upright in all his dealings, of a genial social disposition, and made many warm friends. He was interested in all township matters, and held many minor offices. He was assessor, clerk and treasurer of his town several years, and a member of the Masonic lodge, and in politics a Democrat. He reared a family of six children, all of whom are now living (1912). He had one daughter and five sons, viz.: Elizabeth, born June 16, 1852, in Bergheim, Germany, now lives at St. Joseph, La Crosse county, Wis.; Joseph, born August 16, 1855, in Roxbury, Dane county, Wis., resides near Neillsville, Wis., where he is engaged in farming; Henry, born October 26, 1858, in Perry, Dane county, Wis., is engaged in farming near St. Hilaire, Minn.; Hilarius, born February 23, 1862, in the town of Jefferson, this state, is engaged in the laundry business at Staples, Minn.; William, born November 18, 1866, in the town of Jefferson; Mathias, born May 4, 1870, in the town of Jefferson, resides near Neillsville, engaged in farming. He lived to the age of sixty-two years, and died January 10, 1891. The death of the mother occurred March 22, 1890.

William received his education in the common schools, which he attended until his eighteenth year, and lived with his father until he died. He was married October 23, 1891, at St. Mary's church, to Miss Elizabeth Schmitz. Mr. Rondorf is one of the progressive and up-to-date farmers of his town, and keeps his farm of 200 acres in section sixteen well supplied with good horses, cattle and hogs. He is successful in his operations, is a Progressive Republican in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

Ephraim G. Root, who, after a residence in Monroe county of fifty-five years, died on January 12, 1912, was born in the state of New York in 1834. He came to Wisconsin, locating in Monroe county in 1857, and was among the earliest settlers; he has lived here almost continuously since that time. During the gold excitement in 1859, he was one of a party from this vicinity to make the trip to Pike's Peak, and subsequently returning to Monroe county, he was married to Miss Ann Parker, daughter of John and Judith (Hicks) Parker, and immediately settled on the farm in Pleasant Valley, Greenfield township, where they resided until his death. He is survived by his wife and two adopted children, William H. Root and Mrs. Ella Hatch, all of whom reside at Tomah, and one sister who lives in Iowa, two brothers

in California. When Mr. Root came to Greenfield township, the country was in a wild state, with few settlers, and the privations and hardships experienced were many; but, like most of the hardy pioneers, he overcame all obstacles and prospered in the end. When he first located on his farm, he lived in a tent until his buildings could be erected; he cleared eighty acres, where he spent the rest of his life engaged in farming. He stood high in the esteem of his neighbors, was energetic and progressive, a kind neighbor and good citizen, interested in the affairs of his community, and was a man of genuine worth.

William H. Root, the adopted son of Ephraim G. Root, was born in the Adirondack mountains, in Warren county, New York, on October 3, 1864, and Gen. Ethan Allen was his great-great-uncle. He was adopted at the age of two years. He remained on the home farm in Greenfield township until 1892, when he removed to Tomah and engaged in the mercantile business, and since 1901 has been employed in the rural mail service. During the war with Spain, Mr. Root served in Company K, Third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, until the close of the war, having been with his regiment in Porto Rico. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Woodmen of the World, and the Mystic Workers of the World.

On November 3, 1885, Mr. Root was married to Miss Dora Vandervort, daughter of J. B. and Anna (McIntyre) Vandervort, of Tomah. They were natives of New York state, and on coming to Wisconsin first located at Oconomowoc, but later moved to La Grange township, Monroe county. To Mr. and Mrs. Root have been born four children, viz.: Helen married D. R. Richmond, of Grundy Center, Iowa, and Vivian, who lives at home. Those deceased are Elsia and Janet E.

John T. Scantleton, general merchant of Cataract, Monroe county, is a native of the Empire state, and was born at Brooklyn, N. Y., January 22, 1855. He is a son of James and Bedelia (Thomas) Scantleton, natives of Ireland. They came to New York before marriage, and when the subject of this sketch was but one year old they removed to Chicago, where they remained until they came to Monroe county, in the early fifties, and the father engaged in the milling business at Sparta, where he conducted the McClure mill. It was in 1874 that he located in Cataract, and in company with John Moffat continued in the milling business until their plant was destroyed by fire. At that time our subject, in company with his father, purchased Mr. Moffat's interest in the business, and together they reconstructed the plant

and successfully continued the business until their buildings were again destroyed by fire in 1911. Mr. Scantleton, father of our subject, died in March, 1910, at the age of seventy-five years, and his widow, mother of Mr. John Scantleton, passed away in May, 1911, at the age of seven-seven years.

John Scantleton, our subject, is the eldest of a family of five children, two of whom are now living, the subject and one sister, Theressa, wife of John H. Levis, of Black River Falls, Wis. Mr. Scantleton received his education in the schools of Sparta, and early found employment in the mill with his father and continued at that occupation for two years after coming to Cataract. In 1877 he purchased the general store he now conducts, from J. H. Rathbun, which he successfully carried on until 1888, when he sold the business to Frank Martin and moved to Millston, Wis., where for eighteen months he was engaged in the same line of business. Returning to Cataract at the end of that time, he purchased his former business, and has since continued in general merchandising.

In 1875 Mr. Scantleton was united in marriage with Miss Emma Martin, daughter of John and Anna Martin, early settlers in Lafayette township. Two children were born to this union: Gracie, deceased, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Scantleton died in 1884, and in 1885 he was married to Miss Susie Martin, sister of his first wife. They had one son, John M., now a student at the Chicago Medical College. Mr. Scantleton has been actively identified with his township, and for several years served as treasurer, and during the Cleveland administration was postmaster at Cataract. He is a lover of sports and fine horses.

Joseph Schaitel, who resides on his farm in section twenty, Wells township, is the son of Michael and Antonia (Webber) Schaitel, and was born in the town of Wells, Monroe county, Wis., March 27, 1864. His parents emigrated to America from Germany in 1851, and upon arriving in this country went to Indiana, where they lived one year, then moved to Monroe county, where the father homesteaded and purchased 400 acres of land in Wells township. He moved to Monroe county with a yoke of oxen, and was six months on his journey. Here he established the family home and reared a family of eleven children, our subject being the fifth in order of birth. He was a successful general farmer and always kept the farm well stocked with good horses and sheep. He was well thought of in his community, and took an active interest in the affairs of his town. He was supervisor of his town and for two years was

school clerk. He lived to the age of sixty-two years, and died in 1898. His widow, mother of our subject, survives at the age of seventy-six years.

Joseph Schaitel was reared on the farm and attended the district school. At the age of twenty-five years, he left the home farm and for six years was engaged in the saloon business at Melvina. At the expiration of that time, he returned to the farm and purchased 260 acres of the old homestead, where he now lives in a comfortable home. Since purchasing the place, he has added a new barn, 30x50 feet, and substantial outbuildings, including a silo, erected in 1911. He now wants to go into registered stock, his choice being Holstein cattle; he has a fine herd started now. He also wishes to raise Percheron horses. He has a fine drove of sheep and fine hogs.

On May 6, 1895, he was married to Miss Tenna Leibel, daughter of Wenszel and Frances Leibel. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schaitel, six of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Paul, Johnnie, Robert, Joseph, Francis and Carlton. Mr. Schaitel is numbered among the successful and prosperous farmers of his town, and is a public-spirited and influential citizen. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

Mr. and Mrs. Leibel, parents of Mrs. Schaitel, emigrated to America from Germany, and after arriving in this country located at Norwalk, and after about one year Mr. Leibel was employed at Tunnel No. 3, and continued at this work until he injured his eyesight, after which he moved to the town of Jefferson, where he established the family homestead, and purchased 160 acres of land and reared a family of nine children, as follows: Mrs. Anna Bridenbach, of Eagle, Wis.; Rudolph, of La Crosse, Wis.; John, on the homestead farm; Mrs. Mary V. Ruden, at Cashton; Mrs. Schaitel; Mrs. Frances Hornung, of Baraboo, Wis., and Katherine Leibel, of Seattle, Wash., and two deceased. The father was a successful and hard-working farmer. He lived to the age of fifty-eight and died May 12, 1887. His widow, mother of Mrs. Schaitel, survives at the age of seventy-seven, and since 1901 has been an invalid.

Paul Schaller, of the firm of Gross & Schaller, prominent drug firm of Sparta, is a son of Henry and Mary (Gahler) Schaller, born on June 17, 1867. His parents emigrated to this country from Germany when they were both about seven years of age, with their parents, and both families settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin. Mr. Schaller, father of Paul, came to Sparta in the early fifties, and was one of the pioneers of that section, and

Sparta's earliest cabinetmaker. He still resides in Sparta. Mrs. Schaller passed away at the age of forty-one years.

Paul Schaller is the youngest child of a family of five children. The others are: Nina, wife of Dr. W. T. Sarles, of Sparta; Mary, wife of J. H. Fernevhough, of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Henry F. W., of Watertown, S. D., and Wendell, deceased.

Mr. Schaller received his education in the public schools and the Chicago College of Pharmacy, graduating from the latter with the class of 1891, receiving a thorough course of six years, and began his business career as clerk for Crane & McClure, at Sparta, which position he held for six years, and then engaged with T. H. Spencer, of La Crosse, for a time. He then went to Madison and spent one year, and in 1895 came to Sparta and purchased the interest of W. P. Palmer in the drug business with Mr. Gross, since which time the firm has been Gross & Schaller.

In 1897 Mr. Schaller married Miss Brittomarte Woodward, daughter of John Woodward, of Platteville, Wis.

P. W. Schmitz,* a native of Monroe county, was born on the old homestead April 10, 1877, the son of William and Sophia (Mickels) Schmitz. The father was born in Germany, August 12, 1841, and came to America with his parents in 1858. His father, Henry Schmitz, grandfather of our subject, located in the town of Wells, in Monroe county, and purchased a farm of 160 acres in sections eighteen, seven and eight, where he resided until his death. William Schmitz, father of P. W., was the oldest child of a family of ten children, nine of whom are now living. He was twice married and by his first wife, Katherine Mickels, had two children. By his second wife, Sophia Mickels, he had ten children, the subject of this sketch being the fifth child in order of birth. The father was a highly respected citizen and prominent in his community. He was chairman of the town board, assessor for four years, supervisor and for several years a director on the school board. He was a successful farmer and owned at the time of his death, which occurred in 1905, 288 acres of land in Wells township. His widow, Sophia Mickels, who was born June 27, 1847, is now living with her son in Monroe county.

P. W. had the advantages of a limited schooling, attending the district school until his twelfth year. He remained on the home farm, assisting in tilling the soil, until October 22, 1901, when he married Miss Agnes Schmitz, a daughter of Peter Schmitz, of St. Joseph's Ridge, and a native of Germany. Her father died in 1883, and the mother survives at the age of sixty-six years. After his marriage our subject started out for himself

and is now known as a successful farmer and one of the progressive citizens of the town of Wells. To Mr. and Mrs. Schmitz have been born four children, viz.: Elizabeth, born December 6, 1902; Frank, born March 10, 1904; Sophia, born March 4, 1905, and Geniveva, born October 31, 1909.

August Schlaver,* who departed this life Tuesday, December 5, 1911, and who had prepared to enjoy a long life of continued usefulness, was attacked by a fatal malady and, although he made a good fight and was determined to the last that he would overcome its remorseless attacks, the final call came just as he was making plans to go to Colorado for the winter, in the hope that the climate might aid him in his fight for life. He was born in the province of Posen, Germany, December 3, 1863, and came to the United States with his parents in 1870. The family settled on the farm now owned by Otto Schlaver, and there August grew to manhood. He attended the Hogue district school and remained on the home farm until his marriage, when he located in Burns township, La Crosse county, on a rented farm, which he conducted for five years, when he purchased 160 acres in Sparta township, to which he later added 100 acres. The improvements at that time were unsuited for a man with the progressive disposition of Mr. Schlaver, and under his careful management he had erected all the buildings now on the farm, consisting of a commodious dwelling, large and substantial barn, silo and other outbuildings. He was never satisfied unless working to improve the farm. He was a high-minded, public-spirited gentleman, kind and generous and ever mindful of the comforts of his family. He was alive to the interests of the community and active in public matters. He was interested in the Rockland Creamery, of which he was at one time manager. The roads of the town of Sparta, together with the inspiration and example they created and set for Monroe county and vicinity, will stand as a sturdy lasting monument to him who was the moving spirit in their construction. He was a pioneer in this movement for good roads, and the vitality and effort, the time and money he put into this work, cannot be estimated. As chairman of his town, an office he held for five years, to the time of his demise, being a member of the side board for years prior to that time, his work was very efficient and noteworthy, but it is particularly by his road improvements that he will be remembered.

Mr. Schlaver was united in marriage April 17, 1887, with Miss Augusta Richert, daughter of Frederich and Louisa (May) Richert, of Sparta. They were born near Berlin, Prussia, and came

to America when Mrs. Schlaver was but three years of age. In 1868 they settled in Sparta, where the father for a time was employed in the paper mills of O. I. Newton Sons Company, and where he remained until a short time before his death, when he went to live with Mrs. Schlaver, where he died. Mrs. Schlaver's mother is also deceased, both he and she living to the age of seventy-four years. Mrs. Schlaver is the ninth child of a family of ten children. Those besides Mrs. Schlaver who are now living are: Louisa, the wife of Herman Yankee, Mary, Fred, August and William. Those deceased are: Minnie, Carl, Carrie, and one who died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. Schlaver were born five children: Ella, a graduate of the Sparta high school, has been engaged in teaching for the past six years; Laura and Theodore, who reside at home, and Lillian and Arthur, who are deceased.

Otto Schlaver,* one of the enterprising farmers of Sparta township, is a native of Germany and was born March 28, 1870, son of August and Henrietta (Leek) Schlaver. When Otto was but a few weeks old his parents, in the spring of 1870, came to the United States. Upon their arrival in this country they came to Wisconsin and settled in Monroe county on the farm in section nineteen, Sparta township, where our subject now resides. He was a man of genial temperament, kind hearted and liberal, and was held in high esteem by his many friends. He died April 5, 1902, at the age of sixty-nine years. Mrs. Schlaver, mother of Otto, still survives and enjoys good health at the age of seventy-six years. John Schlaver, paternal grandfather of our subject, came from Germany to the United States and settled in Sparta township about 1852, on a large tract of government land, owning at one time what now comprises the farms of Otto Schlaver, Leonard Herbst and Mrs. August Schlaver, Jr., and here made his home until his decease. His wife, grandmother of Otto, lived to the ripe age of ninety-two years. Charles Schlaver, half brother of August Schlaver, Sr., is still a resident of Sparta township. There were five children in the family of August Schlaver, Sr., three daughters and two sons: August, who is now deceased; Otto; Augusta, the wife of John Huppler, of Sparta; Emma, wife of Fred Sunday, of Leon township, and Bertha is the wife of Con Koehler, of Erskine, Minn.

On February 17, 1903, Mr. Otto Schlaver married Miss Elizabeth Rhyme, daughter of August Rhyme, of Burr Oak, La Crosse county; they have three children, Edna E., Clarence O. and Lester A. The parents of Mrs. Schlaver were among the pioneer settlers of La Crosse county, and in these early days there were no means

of travel except by the overland route, and the Rhyme family made their way to La Crosse county by ox team. Since Mr. Schlaver became owner of his present farm he has made many improvements, remodeled his outbuildings, added an up-to-date windmill, improved his dairy stables by adding new stanchions and cow stalls. In 1907 he built a modern residence, equipped with up-to-date appliances, and during the year 1912 a cement silo was erected. Mr. Schlaver is thoroughly progressive in his farming methods, public-spirited, and takes a lively interest in public affairs. A Democrat in political view, a member of the school board, and the Lutheran church, and from 1900 to 1906 was a member of Company L, Wisconsin National Guard.

Henry F. Schroeder, county surveyor of Monroe county, Wisconsin, ranks among the younger class of enterprising, energetic and progressive business men of the county. He was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, January 1, 1873, the son of Albert and Mary (Bakker) Schroeder, natives of Germany and Holland respectively. The parents came to the United States in 1861 and settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where the father was employed for three years in the Austin gunpowder mill; they afterwards moved to Monroe county, and in 1867 settled on a farm in section eighteen, Oakdale township, which the father homesteaded, and where he lived until his father's death, which occurred in 1880. His father was the father of four boys and one daughter—Albert, Robert and a sister being the only survivors.

Henry F. Schroeder received his preliminary education in the common schools, which was supplemented by a course of study at the Dixon, Ill., Normal School. After completing his course in engineering and surveying, he returned to Monroe county, and in 1896 became deputy surveyor of the county, which position he held for six years. In 1910 he was elected county surveyor, with headquarters at Tomah. He takes a commendable interest in the affairs of his community, and, besides being thorough in the arts of his profession, he is the owner of a good farm five miles southwest of Tomah.

Robert F. Schroeder, the popular and well known coal dealer of Tomah, Wis., is the youngest child of a family of seven children, three of whom are now (1912) living. The others are Emily and Albert. Robert F. was born in Germany, April 10, 1854, and came with his parents to Ottawa, Canada, where they resided for about three years, and then moved to Cuyahoga county, Ohio, with a family of four sons. On account of failing health of the father, it was necessary for the boys to assist in supporting the

family and they all secured employment with the Austin Powder Company at Cleveland. Here they remained for some four years and then moved to Wisconsin, settling on a farm in the town of Oakdale, which the father homesteaded and with the aid of his sons soon subdued and made into a model farm. Here the parents passed the remainder of their lives, the death of the father occurring in 1879 and that of the mother in 1904. They were thrifty, energetic people and prominent in their community. He was considered one of Monroe county's substantial citizens, and while engaged in farming paid a great deal of attention to the raising of sheep, at which he was successful. He was a devoted member of the Lutheran church and contributed liberally of his means to its support.

Robert F. received a limited education in the common schools of Ohio, and at the age of eighteen started to learn the blacksmith's trade, and after coming to Tomah was apprenticed to David Jones for three years. Mastering the trade in all its branches, he was employed by others on a salary for a short time, and then engaged in business on his own account. By close application and by honorable and fair dealing, he soon acquired the reputation of turning out the best work of any blacksmith in that locality. He gained a large patronage and successfully carried on this line of business until 1906, when he embarked in the coal and wood trade, in which he has been equally successful; he handles all kinds of hard and soft coal and his business has steadily increased until his sales amount to something more than sixty cars per year.

Fraternally Mr. Schroeder is an active member of the Masonic order and has filled all the chairs in the Blue Lodge and Chapter. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he formerly was an adherent to the principles of the Democratic party, but now is independent in thought and action. He has always taken an active interest in all matters pertaining to his city and county and has filled numerous public offices. He served as alderman for five terms and was mayor of the city of Tomah for two terms.

On January 19, 1877, Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage to Miss Hulda W. Ziebell, of Watertown, Wis. Of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder, two—Osar R. and Grace M.—are living.

Charles H. Schulte was born in the town of Wells, Monroe county, January 16, 1872, and is a son of Anton and Elizabeth (Stute) Schulte, both of whom are natives of Germany. The

father came to America in 1850, and the mother, accompanied by her parents and one brother, came in 1854. Upon arriving in this country, they located and remained for a time in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where the father of our subject had purchased fifty-one acres of land, and where he resided for fourteen years. The family afterwards moved to Monroe county and for five years resided in the town of Ridgeville, whence they moved to Wells township, where the father purchased 240 acres of land in sections one, two and eleven, and here they have since resided. Both the father and mother were born in 1831, and are now retired from active labor and make their home with our subject, Charles H. The paternal grandfather died in 1874 and the grandmother in 1876. The parents have been residents of Monroe county for many years, and during this time they have been considered among the most progressive and influential citizens of the township. Mr. Schulte is a Democrat in politics and has always taken an active interest in matters pertaining to his town and county. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted in Company A, Seventeenth Wisconsin Infantry, in 1861, and after serving ten months, was honorably discharged on account of disability, returned home and resumed his farming operations.

Charles H. is one of a family of nine children, four of whom are now (1912) living. He acquired his education in the district schools, attending until he was fourteen years old, and has always lived on the home farm, which he now owns, and carries on general farming and dairying. He uses the most up-to-date methods in his operations and is one of the wide-awake and progressive men in his township. Although formerly a staunch Democrat in political views, he is now independent and supports whatever appeals to his best judgment in matters of public importance. He occupies a prominent place in the affairs of his town and county, and for five years has been chairman of the town board and supervisor for two years; he has been a director of the German Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Norwalk for many years, and was one of the organizers of the Norwalk Telephone Company, of Norwalk, which was incorporated on June 11, 1907, and is now its secretary.

He was married on May 28, 1907, in Richland county, Wisconsin, to Miss Ellen Cruise, daughter of Bernard Cruise, early settlers and prominent citizens of Richland county.

Adolph H. Schultz, prominent alike as a farmer and citizen of Monroe county, resides in section fourteen, Adrian township, where he was born July 18, 1871, and is the fifth child of a family

of seven children born to Carl and Mary (Baumgarten) Schultz, both natives of Germany. Of the others, George resides in Tomah; Fred lives in Minneapolis, Minn; Otto lives at Winona, Minn.; Dena, who is deceased, married Edward Baumgarten; Herman also resides in Minneapolis, and Mary is the wife of William Lenz, of Tomah. The parents came to Wisconsin in an early day and were married at Columbus, this state, fifty-three years ago. They came to Monroe county and settled on eighty acres of wild land in Adrian township, where they established the family home, and to which they subsequently added another eighty acres, making the farm contain 160 acres. Here they built a log house and barn and set to work to subdue and improve the land, and by hard work and perseverance succeeded in transforming it from a practical wilderness to one of the choicest farms in the county for productiveness. In 1878 a new and commodious frame residence was erected and other valuable improvements were made, and Mr. Schultz was considered one of the most successful farmers of his township, and was always ready to assist in any movement towards the general development of the county. He was genial, kind-hearted, and was held in the highest esteem. On April 19, 1909, he passed away, at the age of seventy-nine years. His widow, mother of our subject, still survives (1912) and resides in the city of Tomah.

Adolph H. was reared on the home farm and received his education in the common schools, and since boyhood has devoted his entire attention to farming, beginning on his own resources at the age of fifteen years. He rented and carried on the home farm for five years previous to its purchase in 1902, since which time he has continued to make improvements and has brought the land to its present high state of cultivation, taking great pride in making his one of the most attractive farm homes in Adrian township. In 1908 he built a modern residence with up-to-date fittings and furnishings, and in 1912 constructed a large and commodious barn, which contains all the late appliances used in carrying on a model dairy business; it has patent stanchions, concrete floors, the latest feed devices, waterworks system, silo. Other buildings are granary, sheep barns, etc., etc. His farm is well stocked with good horses, Holstein cattle and Oxford sheep.

Besides his farming operations, Mr. Schultz is kept busy looking after his other business interests throughout the county. He is a director of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Tomah, a director of the Tomah Co-operative Creamery Company, a director

of the Tomah Mutual Town Farm Insurance Company, and has served both as treasurer and assessor of his town.

On November 17, 1897, he was married to Miss Emma Bickel, daughter of John and Mary (Bartel) Bickel, of Tomah. Mrs. Bickel died in 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Schultz have been born four children, viz.: Lucile Violet, Mildred Dorothy, Carl John and Helen Marie Schultz.

Henry W. Schultz, who was born on the farm where he resides, in section thirteen, Adrian township, June 13, 1867, is a son and one of a family of eight children born to John and Mary (Bartels) Schultz. Of the others, John F. is deceased in 1908; William H. lives in Tomah; Dr. C. L. lives in Clark county, Wisconsin; Mary is the wife of George Henry, of Tomah; Carrie is the wife of William Henry, Taylor, N. D.; George died in 1910, and Ida is the wife of William Schultz, of Adrian township. The parents emigrated from Germany to the United States in 1858, and were among the early settlers of Adrian township, where they lived on section thirteen; the original farm contained 120 acres. Their first residence and barn was made of logs, which were afterwards replaced with more pretentious buildings, as circumstances demanded. Mr. Schultz was a sturdy and ambitious man, and won his way to success through the pioneer struggle, and at the time of his death, which occurred on June 1, 1898, in his eighty-first year, held the confidence and esteem of the community. His wife, mother of our subject, who died in 1894, at the age of sixty-three years, was highly respected and beloved by all who knew her.

Henry W. spent his boyhood on the homestead farm, of which he came into possession in 1898, since which time he has made many improvements; the farm residence, which was built forty-nine years ago, has been remodeled and the land brought to a high state of productiveness. He attended the district school when a boy, and is now counted among the industrious and worthy citizens of his township.

On February 2, 1898, Mr. Schultz was married to Miss Agnes Rehberg, daughter of E—— and Agnes (Zastoupil) Rehberg, of Adrian township. Seven children have been born to them, viz.: Eunice, Kenneth, Leonard, Clarence and Allen, twins, and Claude and Arthur, twins, both deceased.

Lewis J. Schultz, one of the representative and influential farmers of Adrian township, Monroe county, lives on section twenty-seven, and is the owner of 400 acres in Cole's Valley. He

is a native of Monroe county, born in Adrian, February 15, 1865, and is the eldest of a family of nine children born to Lewis J. and Reka (Jense) Schultz, both natives of Germany. When a young man, the father came to this country and first located on a tract of wild land in Ridgeville township, and soon after locating here he took up a homestead claim in the eastern part of that township, which he afterwards sold and purchased one forty and homesteaded another forty in section ten, which he improved and there made his home for twenty years, then moved to Tomah, where he resided until his death in 1909, at the age of seventy-seven years. He was enterprising and thrifty and generally made a success of his undertakings and enjoyed the confidence and respect of his community. His widow, mother of our subject, who still (1912) survives, makes her home in the city of Tomah, esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Of their other children living, Albert resides in Outagamie county, Wisconsin; Emil lives at Russell, this state, and Frank is in Adrian township. Those deceased are Dora, Adolph, Matie, Gustaf and Emma.

Lewis J., subject of this sketch, was reared on the home farm and received his education in the district schools; he remained at home until he reached his majority, and then rented a farm in Adrian township and began farming for himself. He was a success at it from the start, and later purchased his father's farm in section ten, which he carried on for two years, then turned it over to a renter and went to Chicago, Ill., and remained one year; came back to his farm and conducted it himself until 1896, then moved to Tomah and rented the William Lee farm, and at the end of four years, in 1900, he purchased what was known as the Talbot farm, in Adrian township, and two years later bought the Herman Westphal farm, which he has since conducted, and where he now resides. He has recently built a large modern barn with the latest modern devices and a silo, and has also added one thousand rods of woven wire fencing. He is one of the most progressive and up-to-date farmers of his town, and uses the most modern methods in his farming operations.

On May 8, 1890, Mr. Schultz was married to Miss Dora Seflow, daughter of Henry and Mary (Zahrite) Seflow, prominent citizens of Kirby, Lincoln township, where they now reside. Mrs. Schultz is the third child of a family of ten children; the others are: Henry, of Lincoln township; Mary is the wife of Alexander Randall, of Marshfield, Wis.; Anna married George Warnke and resides in Chicago; Emma is the wife of William Schick; Min-

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nie the wife of Christ Bock, of Chicago; Augusta married Richard Erickson, of Chicago, and Julia is now Mrs. John Clay, of Lincoln township. Those deceased are Elizabeth and William.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schultz. Those living are: Elva L., Ernest F., and Dorothy L. Schultz. Three are deceased, viz.: Raymond W., Clarence F. and one who died in infancy.

William H. Schultz, dealer in flour, feed and millstuff at Tomah, Wis., was born at Hotsvelt, Germany, August 6, 1853, the son of John and Mary (Bartels) Schultz, and came to America with his parents and two brothers—John F. and Charles—in 1858; they located at Jacksonville, Wis., and purchased 120 acres of wild land and immediately set to work to establish the family home, subdue and cultivate the land. By hard work, thrift and economy, his farm was brought to a high state of cultivation and productiveness with substantial buildings and other improvements, and here they lived the balance of their lives. Mr. Schultz made a specialty of raising the best grades of grain for the market and was a recognized leader of his community. He died in 1906, and the death of his wife, mother of our subject, occurred in 1903. They were the parents of eight children, six of whom are now living. The father was a devoted member of the Lutheran church, and contributed liberally to its support.

William H. was raised on the farm and acquired his education in the district schools up to his eighteenth year. He left the home of his parents when he was twenty, and for the three succeeding years was employed at farm work. He then went to Humbird, Clark county, and here served an appreticeship of three years as a millwright, and after acquiring a good knowledge of the milling business, he went to Red Wing, Minn., and secured employment in the La Grange flour mill. In 1874 he came to Tomah, and taking charge of the Barnes-Doxtader flouring mills, successfully managed the business for eleven years, when he leased the property from that firm and conducted the business on his own account with gratifying success until 1888, when he purchased the Blackman feed mill, which he remodeled and made into a modern flour mill, and has since done a flourishing business in retailing flour and feed.

On January 1, 1877, Mr. Schultz was united in marriage with Miss Dena Nelson, daughter of one of Monroe county's most respected pioneer citizens. Mrs. Schultz' parents were of English ancestry, and located in this county in 1854. They had a family of four children. Of three children born to Mr. and Mrs.

Schultz, two are now living, viz.: Fred D., born July 2, 1878, and Goldie M., born July 30, 1892.

A Republican in his political views, Mr. Schultz has been honored with the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens and has on many occasions been nominated and elected to offices of trust and responsibility. He was elected and served as alderman of the city council, has held the office of mayor of the city, and for two years was city treasurer. He is a man of pleasing social qualities, genial, kind and broad-minded, and takes the keenest interest in whatever relates to the material and moral betterment of his city. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Woodmen of the World.

Melchor Schwarz is another one of the younger class of wide-awake and successful farmers in Monroe county. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in Dane county, May 26, 1884, son of Anton and Helen (Mack) Schwarz. The father was born in Bavaria, Germany, and the mother was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin. His father came to America in 1852 and located in Dane county, where he rented a farm, married and reared a family. In 1892 he moved his family to Monroe county and purchased 200 acres of land on Summit ridge, Wells township, which he afterwards sold to a son, who in turn sold to our subject, the third child in a family of five boys and three girls. After disposing of the home farm, the father moved to Sauk City, Wis., where he now lives in retirement.

Melchor spent his boyhood on his father's farm, attending the district school and assisting in the farm work until he reached his majority. He took a commercial course in the business college at Madison, and becoming efficient in bookkeeping, he was in the employ of the Schlitz Brewing Company from 1906 to 1908. His health failing by too close confinement, he went to Colorado, but after a short time he returned to Monroe county and purchased the farm where he now resides. He has made many improvements, including a large cement silo, and has the land under a good state of cultivation. He is largely interested in stock, raising alfalfa, and is a successful breeder and raiser of pure-bred Guernsey cattle and Percheron horses, which he raises for the market. He recently sold two Guernsey calves for $125 each, and in addition to these, he keeps a good Hamiltonian driving team.

Mr. Schwarz was married at Madison, Wis., November 3, 1909, to Miss Martha Baumbach, daughter of Henry Baumbach, whose parents are now both deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Schwarz have

been born two children, viz.: Norbert, born December 16, 1910, and Margaret, born April 23, 1912.

Theodore A. Serrurier, of Wilton, was born at Melbourne, Australia, April 5, 1858, a son of Theodore and Johanna (Schmidt) Serrurier, natives of France and Germany respectively. The parents came to the United States in 1867, with a family of eight children, and located first in Chicago, where he engaged in the lumber and banking business, and at the end of seven years removed to New Lisbon, Wis., and embarked in the hotel business, conducting what was known as the Commercial House. This business the father continued until 1896, at which time he died. The mother died in 1906. They had a family of sixteen children, eight of whom are living. The father received a liberal education in his native country and previous to coming to America spent eleven years in Australia, in gold mining and the hotel business. Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic Lodge, and politically a Republican, but later in life a Democrat.

Theodore attended the public schools until he was eighteen years of age, and for three years was a clerk in a general store at New Lisbon, and from 1877 to 1880 was in the employ of H. Shultz & Son at Tomah; from 1880 to 1883 he engaged in merchandising at Tomah, and in the last named year came to Wilton and purchased 160 acres of land in Wilton township and engaged in farming until 1887; disposing of his farm he moved to the village of Wilton and managed a general store for T. L. Martin. He was appointed postmaster at Wilton by President Cleveland in 1893, which position he resigned in 1895. He then engaged in the hardware business for C. Hett, where he remained until he retired from active business.

In politics he is a Democrat and in 1908 was the unsuccessful candidate for clerk of the Circuit Court. He is now (1912) Democratic candidate for the General Assembly. Fraternally Mr. Serrurier is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

He was married November 4, 1883, in Wilton, to Miss Helen Platner. Three children have been born to this union: Richard S., born August 14, 1884; Kate L., born October 30, 1885, and Edith A., born September 1, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Serrurier reside in their fine modern residence erected in the village of Wilton in 1899.

Charles Sholes, a native son of Wisconsin, was born in Jackson county, February 23, 1863, and is a son of William A. and Ellen (Marvin) Sholes, both natives of New York. When a young

man, the father came to Jackson county and for a time worked in the lumber woods; he later purchased 160 acres of wild land, which by hard work and industry he improved and brought to a good state of cultivation. After a residence of twenty years on this place, he disposed of the land and bought a farm of 200 acres near Melrose, in Jackson county, where he resided for fifteen years, then moved into the town and has since lived in retirement. Of a family of eleven children born to them, nine are now (1912) living, viz.: Cassius, William, Arba and Harley, all married in Minnesota; Ella, now Mrs. E. J. Iliff, in Minneapolis; Libbie (Mrs. G. Thiele), of Minnesota; May Bell (Mrs. Peter Simpson) and Stella, in Melrose, and Charles, the subject of this sketch, near Sparta. Mr. Sholes, Sr., was a successful farmer and a man of influence in his community and is now enjoying the fruits of his many years of toil. The ancestors of both father and mother are traced to England.

Charles was brought up on the home farm and, until he was eighteen, attended the district schools and assisted in the farm work. After he became twenty-two he was employed in the lumber woods and on the river until he was married, then moved to Black River Falls, this state, and lived there for twelve years, when he assumed the management of the Spaulding stock farm near Black River Falls and remained for seven years. In 1901 they moved to Melrose and, after a residence there for two years, moved to Monroe county and purchased the Kilts farm in Sparta township, three miles from the city of Sparta, and here they still reside. The farm is improved with good buildings and cultivation, and Mr. Sholes is considered one of the successful farmers of the township, and employs the most up-to-date methods in his farming operations. He is a Republican in political sentiment and at this time supports the principles advocated by Senator LaFollette. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1888 Mr. Sholes was married, at North Bend, Jackson county, Wisconsin, to Miss Estella Sims, daughter of W. S. and Olive Sims, pioneers of Jackson county and well to do and highly respected citizens. They were the parents of five children, of whom three are living, viz.: Estella, now Mrs. Sholes; George D., and Edna, who married F. J. Dostal and resides in Minnesota. The ancestors of Mrs. Sholes are traceable to France on the maternal side, while the paternal grandfather was from Scotland. To Mr. and Mrs. Sholes have been born six children, four of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Charles Franklin, born September

26, 1889; Elma, born August 25, 1894; Lloyd W., born September 11, 1898, and Lilah May, born September 10, 1903.

Charles E. Simpson, only son of Gustavus and Mary E. (Kemp) Simpson, was born at Havana, Ill., November 20, 1862. His parents were natives of Watertown, N. Y., where they remained until 1849, when, during the gold excitement in California, they joined the ranks of the westward traveler, and started overland for the field of promised riches. Arriving at Havana, Ill., after a long and tiresome trip, they gave up the undertaking and located there, where Mr. Simpson embarked in the hardware business. Disposing of his interests in Havana in 1865, he came to Sparta, Wis., and again opened a hardware store and was one of the first men to engage in this line of business in the village. He conducted a successful business from the start, which he followed for the remainder of his active life.

As a progressive and enterprising citizen and business man, Mr. Simpson ranked among the first. He was a man of marked individuality, independent in thought and action and an important factor in the early upbuilding of the town selected for his future home. He was at one time village assessor and later was an alderman in the city council for his ward, and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was born in 1830 and died in 1897. His widow, mother of our subject, was born in 1832, in Watertown, N. Y., and came west, with her parents, to Havana, Ill., in 1840, where she was reared and educated. She was possessed of remarkable energy and thoroughly domestic in her ways, and sought no greater pleasure than she found in her home and family. She died in 1901 at the age of sixty-nine years.

Charles E. Simpson received his education in the public schools and the Sparta high school, and when still a young man he entered the hardware store with his father and received a thorough knowledge of the business, and in 1896 he embarked in the same line of business on his own account, in which he has since been eminently successful, and at this time (1912) conducts the leading hardware store in Sparta.

On August 8, 1886, he was married to Miss Hortense Smith, daughter of D. H. Smith, of Sparta. They have four children, viz.: David G., Grace H., Paul and Eloise Simpson.

Samuel Sizer, a prominent and substantial farmer of section eleven, Adrian township, is one of the pioneers of that town. A native of England, he was born at Cambridgeshire, November 1, 1847, the son of Samuel and Sophia (Laton) Sizer, also natives of England and of English parentage. The same year our subject

was born, in 1847, his parents emigrated to the United States and first located in Walworth county, Wisconsin, and, after a residence there of seven years, they came to Monroe county and located on what is known as the "Ridge," in Adrian township, on 160 acres of government land, established the family home and there spent the balance of their active life. Surviving the hardships and privations of the pioneer and transforming their wild land into a well cultivated farm with comfortable buildings, they lived to enjoy the fruits of their toil for many years; he died at the age of eighty-four and his widow at the age of sixty-one years. Of this family there survives, besides our subject, one daughter, Sophia, now Mrs. Albert Thompson, of Sparta.

Samuel Sizer early attended the district schools and remained on the homestead assisting in the farm work until he was twenty-four, when he purchased eighty acres of land, all of which was wild excepting fifteen acres. He erected the first buildings, which are still standing on a rise of ground a short distance north of his present residence. From the first payment of $50 on this land he has, by hard work and persistent efforts, won his way to success and now has one of the most comfortable and commodious homes in the county and his land is in a high state of productiveness. Besides his modern residence erected in 1899, he built a large and substantial barn in 1893. He was married in 1871 to Miss Lydia Burroughs, a native of Chautauqua county, New York, and daughter of the late Samuel and Naomia (Faulkner) Burroughs, natives of the same county. The father came to Wilton township and was one of the first settlers on the old stage road from New Lisbon to Sparta, and in this home they spent their lives. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Sizer are: Edmund, of Adrian; Edith, wife of Frank Spensley, of Adrian township, and Mary, the wife of Herbert Garnee, of Minneapolis, Minn.

Edmund, the son, who with his father conducts the home farm, was on December 14, 1910, united in marriage with Miss Maggie Darnutzer, of Sparta, daughter of Casper and Eva (Flich) Darnutzer, and they have one child—Clara Eva Sizer.

Mr. Sizer, our subject, vividly recalls the hardships experienced in the early days, when he, as a boy in the wilds of the then new country, used to carry grist on horseback from the Ridge to the Jacksonville mill, a distance of eight miles. It is due to such a class of pioneers as are here found that the township contains so many fertile spots. Mr. Sizer has always taken a keen interest in the growth and development of the town as well as in public affairs, and has been a member of the board of supervisors three

terms. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sizer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mrs. Cecilia Slayton, a lady of refinement, was born July 2, 1847, in Norway. Her father, Hans Erickson, emigrated from Norway to America in 1862 with a family of nine children, six of whom are now living. The family settled in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, where the father worked one year for his brother, then for two years engaged in farming on his own account on a rented farm. At the expiration of that time, he purchased eighty acres of land in that county and there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1904. Mrs. Erickson, mother of our subject, still survives at the advanced age of ninety-one years. The father was an influential and highly respected citizen, and a devoted member of the Reformed Lutheran church, as is also the mother.

Our subject was married to Morey Oscar Slayton at Winona, Minn., March 20, 1872. To this union five children were born, viz.: Elsie, born September 15, 1873; Minnie, born January 19, 1877; Howard, born July 4, 1879; Sadie, born June 9, 1885, and Charles, born October 16, 1887. Mr. Slayton was born July 2, 1839. His father came from Vermont to Ohio and thence to Wisconsin and located at Sheboygan, and after a time came to Monroe county and settled in the Leon valley, purchasing what is now known as the old Alsworth farm, which he afterwards sold, and removed to Red River, Minn., where he resided at the time of the Indian massacre. Owing to the hostilities of the Indians, he was compelled to leave that place and return to the Leon valley, where he bought eighty acres of land and made his home and spent the remainder of his life. After his death, which occurred May 6, 1902, his son, Mervey O., came into possession of the farm, which is adjacent to the village of Leon, and the residence was converted into a hotel which is now kept by Howard Slayton, son of our subject, who married a daughter of W. W. Link, now one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Leon valley.

Mrs. Howard Slayton is now the popular postmistress of Leon. Mr. Slayton, the husband of our subject, was a carpenter and joiner by trade and constructed several of the buildings in the village of Leon. He was active, aggressive, public-spirited, and devoted to his family, home and county; a man thoroughly trustworthy, reliable and upright in all his dealings. A short time after his death, Mrs. Slayton erected a handsome modern residence at the side of the hotel, where she now resides with her family, surrounded by a host of friends.

Charles William Smith, a resident of section twenty-eight, Lafayette township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, is a native of Sutton, Brome county, Canada East, and was born December 18, 1860, one of a family of three children born to Roswell and Lydia (Adams) Smith, natives of Canada and Vermont, respectively. The others are: Nellie E., wife of William Morse, of Winnetka, Ill., and Alonzo R., one of the leading attorneys of Baraboo, Wis. Roswell Smith was a son of William and Sarah (Winchester) Smith, and was born June 22, 1833, at Sutton, Canada East. He was raised in the Dominion and there received his education, and became familiar with the details and management of a large stock farm. In 1855 he came to Wisconsin and assisted in the organization of Lafayette township, in Monroe county, and was elected one of the officers. He remained here eighteen months, then returned to Canada, where he resided until 1868, then came back to Monroe county, and purchased 145 acres of land in section twenty-eight, Lafayette township, forty acres being in oak timber. This farm is considered one of the best in Monroe county, and a brook of pure water, which has but recently been stocked with trout, runs through the place and adds materially to its value. Here Roswell Smith conducted his stock farm and made his home until his death, February 27, 1912, at the age of seventy-nine years.

William Smith was a son of John Smith, a native of Scotland; he was paymaster-general of the English army, and received a grant of land from the government, consisting of 400 acres located at Sutton, Canada. The mother was born at Plainfield, Mass., and belonged to an old and highly respected family. They had nine children, six sons and three daughters. William Smith was an early settler in Monroe county, and located on land across the highway from his son Roswell, where he lived until his death in 1875, at the age of seventy-three years. Sarah Winchester, his wife, and grandmother of Charles W., who was also a native of Canada, died in 1880, at the age of sixty-seven years. Mrs. Smith, mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Lydia Adams, was born January 25, 1842, a daughter of Charles Stewart and Sarah (Reynolds) Adams, both natives of Vermont. Charles Stewart Adams was a son of Darius and Hannah (Rouse) Adams. The Adams family were originally from Massachusetts, and the Rouse family were of German extraction. Mrs. Smith, who still resides on the homestead farm, is one of a family of five children; the others are: Eliza, who married David Gunther, of

Canada, is deceased; Caroline, deceased; Darius resides in Canada, and Lorenzo is a resident of Sioux Falls, S. D.

Roswell Smith was a member of Valley Lodge, No. 60, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and was a member of that body for more than fifty years. He was a man of good business qualifications, kind-hearted and generous, and gave liberally of his means to charitable and all worthy causes that appealed to him.

Charles W. Smith was educated in the common schools of his home town and at the La Crosse Business College. He was reared on the home farm, and early learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. During the years 1883-84 he worked at his trade at Sioux Falls, S. D., with his uncle, L. D. Adams, and two years later returned to the home farm and remained until 1887, when he went to West Superior, Wis., and continued at his trade with J. W. Hinckley, remaining there six years. From that time to 1896 he followed his trade at St. Paul and Sparta, and in January of that year returned to the home farm, which since 1897 he has successfully conducted; he has rebuilt the barns and outbuildings, made an addition to the residence, and otherwise improved the place. He is engaged in general farming and dairying, and keeps the farm well stocked with grade Durham cattle. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his town and county, and is now serving as town clerk, an office he first occupied in 1881, and again in 1901. He was town treasurer in 1905-6 and 7, and has also been one of the health officers of his town. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Beavers.

On December 22, 1896, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Edith Schultz, daughter of John and Sophia (Hildebrandt) Schultz, natives of Germany. After coming to the United States her parents first located at Elgin, Ill., where, after making a good start in life they lost their all by the failure of banks in that place. Nothing daunted, they started anew, and by hard work and economy saved their earnings, and later came to Monroe county, and located near Trout Falls, in Lafayette township, where they resided for forty-five years. The father died in 1900 at the age of eighty-five years. The mother survives and lives in Angelo township at the age of seventy-five years. They raised a family of nine children, viz: Anna, married a Mr. Cooper; Fred, deceased; Eva, who married John Faulkner, is deceased; William lives at Olympia, Washington; Sophia and Mary are deceased; Caroline, wife of August Riewert, deceased, lives with her mother in Angelo; Edith, now the wife of our

subject, and John, who is assistant auditor of the Great Northern Railway, resides at Brainard, Minn.

To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born four children: Marie, Nellie, Harold and Mabel Smith.

Emil C. Sonnenburg*, who resides on his farm of 140 acres in section nine, LaGrange township, started life with nothing but his native ability, and has won his way by hard work and persistent efforts, and is counted among the progressive citizens of the county. He was born at Tunnel City, Monroe county, June 26, 1877, the son of Fred and Bertha (Tessman) Sonnenburg, both natives of Germany. They came to America before their marriage and were among the prominent early settlers of Monroe county, and endured their share of hardships incident to pioneer life and the upbuilding of the locality where they settled. In 1874, Mr. Sonnenburg, Sr., settled on a farm near Tunnel City, where he continued to live until 1908, when he removed to the city of Tomah, where he now resides. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away in 1910, at the early age of fifty-nine years, and was loved and respected by all who knew her. They reared a family of eight children, five of whom are living; Emil, the subject of this sketch, being the oldest. The others are Agnes, widow of Louis Kirst, lives in Minnesota; Fred is on the home farm near Tunnel City; Bertha is now Mrs. John Lackelt, of Tomah township, and Martha.

Emil was educated in the district schools, and was reared on the home farm, and while variously employed, retained this as his home, to which he devoted much time and attention, until 1903, when he purchased his present farm. In 1908, he built a comfortable and commodious house and has added other needed improvements. Besides carrying on general farming, he makes a specialty of breeding and raising Guernsey cattle.

On September 2, 1903, he was married to Miss Emma Kohl, daughter of August and Henrietta (Heinz) Kohl, of LaGrange township; they have two interesting children; viz.: Ella Bertha Henrietta and Edna May. In religious faith Mr. and Mrs. Sonnenburg are members of the German Lutheran church, of Tomah.

Fred P. Sonnenburg, one of the hustling young farmers of Greenfield township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, who resides in sections twenty-three and twenty-four, is a native of this town, where he was born July 27, 1882, and is one of a family of eight children born to Fred A. and Bertha (Tessman) Sonnenburg; of the others four are now (1912) living, viz.: Emil, who is a farmer and resides on section nine, LaGrange township; Agnes

lives in Minnesota, and is the widow of Louis Kirst; Bertha married John Lackelt, and lives in Tomah township, and Martha. The parents emigrated from Germany to the United States in the early seventies, and one year after arriving in this country, they located on a 120-acre tract in Greenfield township, and later on purchased an eighty-acre tract in the same town, which is now owned by our subject. The farm at that time was wild timbered land with only three or four acres broken. Being possessed of that energy and thrift characteristic of the German race, the father went diligently to work to clear, subdue and improve the farm, and establish the family home. The privations and hardships were many, but by persistent efforts were overcome, and the land made to blossom like the rose. A new residence was erected in 1888 and the barn in 1895, since which time a granery, water mill and other improvements have been added. The farm is now one of productiveness due largely to the efforts of our subject, who is an energetic and deserving young man who believes in faithful toil and reaps the reward of honest labor. In 1909 the father retired to the city of Tomah, where the mother died on February 3, 1910 at the age of fifty-three years.

Fred P. was reared on the home farm, attending the district schools and assisting in the farm work; he has always lived on this place and after the removal of his father to Tomah in 1909, purchased the farm which he is now successfully carrying on, using up-to-date methods in his operations. On October 27, 1909, Mr. Sonnenburg was married to Miss Emma Boettcher, daughter of August Boettcher, of Lincoln township, this county. They have one daughter, Dahla Leona, born October 21, 1911.

A member of the St. Paul Lutheran church located at Tomah, Wis., and also of the Lutheran Aid Association.

Samuel M. Steele, a progressive farmer who resides in section twenty, Byron township, was born in Wyoming county, New York, December 21, 1863, the son of James and Mary Ann (Fuller) Steele, both natives of New York state, and for many years residents of Java township, Wyoming county, where the father still resides and owns a farm of 200 acres. His wife, mother of our subject, died in 1877 at the age of forty-five years. This branch of the Steele family was descended from an old and prominent New England family. They were the parents of five children; those besides our subject are James A., of Byron township, this county; Emmett resides on the old homestead in Wyoming county, New York; Lyn is the wife of Merton Barber, of Java Village,

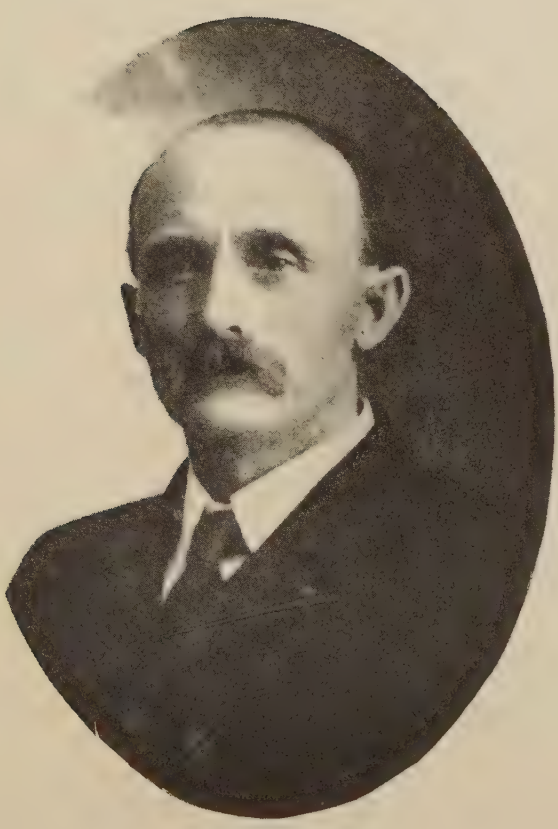
Wyoming county, N. Y., and Jennie is the wife of Fred Wooley, of the same place.

Samuel M. attended the district school of his home town, and at the age of nineteen years, came west to Michigan, and a year later came to Wisconsin and was first employed in the lumber woods for some time, after which he purchased a forty-acre tract of wild land in section eighteen, Byron township, Monroe county, to which he added from time to time until he owned 240 acres, a part of which he subsequently sold, and since March, 1899, has been the owner of his present farm, consisting of 120 acres; this farm was previously owned by the late C. A. Crawford, one of the early settlers of the town of Byron and a veteran of the Civil War, who settled there some forty years ago. Since purchasing the farm, Mr. Steele has made many improvements; built a residence, and in 1912 erected a barn, 32 x 56 feet with basement, and has the land in a fine state of cultivation. He takes an active part in township and county affairs and has served as town clerk for two terms, chairman of the town board for six years and treasurer for several terms. He was married November 27, 1890, to Miss Minnie A. Root, daughter of Oren A. and Alvira (Wood) Root, of Byron township.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Steele are Miles L., Watson E., Winfield S., Clifford J., Nellie B., Mernie M. and Ralph E. Steele.

George P. Stevens, a representative citizen and farmer of section twelve, Adrian township, was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, July 5, 1851, and the fourth child of a family of six children born to George P. and Emily (Shove) Stevens, natives of New York and Connecticut, respectively; of the others, Caroline N. married Joseph Turner, and is now deceased, her death having occurred in 1912; Alice A. is the widow of Henry Burlingame; Nancy, who was Mrs. C. E. Bell, is deceased; Oliver B. resides at Riverside, Calif., and Chester H. lives at Tomah. The ancestors on the Stevens side were originally from England, while on the mother's side they were Scotch origin. The parents came to Wisconsin in the forties and first located in Waukesha county, and in 1856 moved to Monroe county and settled on a farm in Adrian township, where the father died in 1866 at the age of fifty-one years, when our subject was in his fourteenth year. The death of the mother occurred in 1865 at the age of fifty years.

George P. received his education in the district schools and spent his boyhood on the homestead farm, where he now resides and which came into his possession in 1875. Mr. Stevens has



GEORGE P. STEVENS

resided in Adrian township during his whole lifetime, and has taken great pride in improving and making his farm of 145 acres one of the best in the county. He remodeled and made an up-to-date residence with modern conveniences in 1911, constructed a barn in 1905, which, with his other outbuildings and the highly cultivated condition of his land, makes an ideal country home. In public affairs Mr. Stevens has always taken a keen interest; he has represented his district in the state legislature two terms, 1903 and 1905, and as a member of the railway commission made himself prominent before the people, and was county treasurer for two terms. He is now serving his second consecutive term as chairman of the town board, an office he has previously held for several terms. He has also been treasurer of his town and is one of the most popular public spirited citizens on the east side of the county.

In 1875 he was married to Miss Ida E. Jackson, daughter of W. W. Jackson, of Adrian township. The fruits of this union are four children, viz.: Harold L., of Chicago; Grace, deceased; Ruth A., wife of J. G. Kemp, of Vancouver, British Columbia, and Leonard J., who lives in Chicago, where he is employed at contracting work.

Louis Storkel*. That intelligent "hustling" pays, is well exemplified by the success scored by Louis Storkel, the well known florist of Tomah. Mr. Storkel was born in Weilburg, Germany, on June 23, 1860, to Philip and Johanna (Gras) Storkel, both natives of Germany, and the parents of nine children—seven sons and two daughters. He was a strong disciplinarian and required each of the boys to learn some trade. He died in Germany in 1901. The mother is still living at the age of seventy-one years.

Louis received his education in his native country and there learned the florist trade. He came to America and located in New York City, where he worked at his trade for a time, and deciding to try his fortune in the West, he came to Milwaukee in 1884. Not finding this city suitable for the business in which he wished to engage, however, he came to Tomah, arriving here with just 17 cents in his pocket. He felt that success was before him and he was equal to the task of carving out for himself more than a bare livelihood. He secured employment as a laborer, which occupation he followed for eight years. Determined to succeed in the country of his adoption, he brought to bear that indomitable power of will common to his German ancestors, and with the desire uppermost in his mind to become a landed proprietor in this

country, he succeeded by thrift, economy and industry in saving his earnings with which he purchased thirty-five acres of land adjoining the city of Tomah, and erecting thereon a small green house, started in business at his trade. He prospered from the beginning, and soon enlarged his first building to a large greenhouse containing 8,000 square feet of glass. His business continued to prosper and he began to increase his land holdings and expand his facilities until he now owns 120 acres of choice land on which he raises large quantities of small fruits and vegetables, his annual sales amounting to thousands of dollars. In the year 1910 he realized $4,000 from the sale of strawberries and other small fruits; in addition, he raised large quantities of tomatoes, cabbage and celery. He supplies the home market besides shipping in carload lots to other markets. His nursery stock is the finest in the county and his place is called "the Tomah green house and fruit farm," and is the largest of its kind in the state of Wisconsin.

Mr. Storkel is a member of the park board of Tomah, and the flowers, evergreens and shrubbery growing along the boulevards have been planted, managed and superintended solely by him. He takes an active interest in public affairs, and is always ready to lend his moral influence and financial aid to any worthy enterprise tending to the betterment of his community, and withal he is a high-minded, public spirited citizen. He contributes largely to the leading magazines published in the interest of his line of business.

On March 9, 1884, Mr. Storkel was married to Miss Minnie Mau. Their six children are Herman, Lena, Anna, Louis, Adolph and Louisa, all of whom are living.

Charles Stratman, a well-to-do farmer of Wellington township, Monroe county, came here in 1890 and bought his farm of 240 acres in sections ten and fifteen, which he has since made one of the ideal homesteads in the county. His residence, barns and other outbuildings lend a prosperous appearance to his farm, and his water is supplied by a hydraulic engine from natural springs on the place. His methods of farming are thoroughly up to date—and, in short, he is a progressive farmer. He is the son of Arnt and Louisa (Neadfelt) Stratman, both natives of Germany, who came to America sometime in the forties, with a family of four children, and located in West Salem, La Crosse county, Wis., where they bought 160 acres of land in 1867. The father started in life with no means save his native ability to earn a livelihood by the sweat of his brow, and he worked for a long time as a day

laborer, and by his close application and economical management, he saved sufficient money to purchase his farm, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1909, was a successful farmer with a comfortable home and many friends. They were members of the Lutheran church, and Mrs. Stratman is still living at West Salem at the age of seventy-eight years. They had a family of seven children, five of whom are now (1912) living.

Charles was the youngest of the family, and was born on March 28, 1876, in West Salem, Wis. He attended the district schools until he was fourteen years old and lived at home until he was twenty-one. His first venture on his own resources was on a rented farm, which he worked for one year, and on December 15, 1898, he was married at West Salem to Miss Dora Wehrs, one of a family of five children. Her father was a stone mason by trade and came from Germany to La Crosse county, Wisconsin, in an early day.

Mr. and Mrs. Stratman have a family of four children: Edna P., Harry C., Walter W. and Ethel A.

Will F. Strozinsky is a native of Wilton township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, and was born June 9, 1870, the second child in order of birth in a family of nine children, born to Charles and Anna (Rainsaur) Strozinsky. The father was born in Prussia and the mother in Austria. The father came to America while yet a young man, in the early fifties, and located in Dorset Ridge, town of Wilton, where he worked as a day laborer until his marriage. He homesteaded a farm of 160 acres, where he lived three years, then moved to Cold Spring valley, where he purchased 120 acres in section fourteen, and there lived until he died in 1891. When he first settled on his farms they were in a wild state, which required much energy and labor to subdue, and in connection with his farming operations, he operated a thrashing machine for eighteen years. He was a kind hearted, genial and public spirited and had a wide acquaintance over the county. He was jovial and a great lover of song, but rather unfortunate in business, leaving at the time of his death many obligations, which were assumed and paid in full by his sons. The mother of our subject is now living in Tomah at the age of sixty-seven years, and is a member of the Lutheran church, as was her husband.

Will F. attended the public school until he was eighteen, and early began life for himself. At the beginning of his career he worked seven months during the first summer for one man, receiving for the full time $115. He worked five more summers, and since that time has been an aggressive and hard working man,

whose efforts have been crowned with success. In 1897 he bought a farm of 120 acres in section twenty-three, town of Wilton, where he now resides, successfully engaged in general farming and breeding and raising full blooded Holstein cattle. He operates an extensive dairy and sells his cream to the Wilton Co-operative Creamery Association.

Mr. Strozinsky has been twice married, first to Miss Bertha Wolkow, who died without issue in 1905. On April 28, 1907, he married his second wife at Dorset Ridge, in Wilton township, Miss Minnie Bukatz, by whom he has three children, Clarence H., born November 20, 1908; Edwin E., born December 27, 1909, and Earl A., born December 19, 1911. In religious affiliations, Mr. and Mrs. Strozinsky are members of the Lutheran church, while in politics he is active in the affairs of the Republican party.

John J. Sullivan*, freight agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, is a native of Norfolk, Conn., where he was born on December 25, 1861, and is the oldest of a family of six children, viz.: John J., Kate (deceased), Mary, Murt, Nellie and Daniel (deceased), who were born to Daniel and Mary (Stack) Sullivan, who emigrated from Ireland to the United States when young, settling first in Connecticut, where the father found employment in a foundry. After remaining here for a short time, he came to Sparta, where he found employment with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company as section foreman, which position he retained for the balance of his active life. His death occurred in January, 1907, at the age of seventy-six years. His widow, mother of our subject, is still a resident of Sparta, and enjoys the affection and esteem of her large circle of friends.

Mr. Sullivan, the subject of this sketch received a thorough education in the public and high schools of Sparta, and while still a boy drove the delivery wagon for the American Express Company. His first experience in railroad work was obtained in the freight and baggage department at the local station in Sparta. Mr. Sullivan bears the distinction of being one of the employees in the freight department of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at Sparta who has seen continual service in this line since 1881, being the longest in the employ of any man connected with the road at this place.

In company with Mr. D. C. Hope, Mr. Sullivan established the first cold storage plant at Sparta, and after four years' successful operation, purchased the interests of Mr. Hope, and has since continued the business successfully, making a specialty of buying and

wholesaling eggs. Equipped with a modern cold storage warehouse, he is in the market at all times, and in season buys all the eggs to be had in his locality, paying the highest cash price for them.

Mr. Sullivan is a man of sterling character, exemplary in his habits and a leading spirit in matters that come within the scope of his influence, and takes an active interest in all questions pertaining to the betterment of his city and county. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin and the Fraternal Union. He has been alderman of the third ward for two years.

On June 21, 1893, Mr. Sullivan was united in marriage with Miss Louise Miller, daughter of Casper Miller, a pioneer and prominent citizen of La Crosse. Their children are Samuel Casper; Charles B. and John J., Jr.

Thomas Sullivan, soldier and farmer, was born in 1848 in Michigan, the son of Jeremiah and Nancy (Friley) Sullivan, both natives of Ireland. The father came to America in an early day, and to Wisconsin when Thomas was two years old. He enlisted in Juneau county, in Company C, Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, William H. Blyton's regiment, and served until honorably discharged for disability. Returning to Wisconsin, he purchased 160 acres of land in section twenty-two, Sheldon township, where he lived until his death in 1864. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away during the same year. They experienced the privations and hardships of pioneer life in the then new country, but by hard work and perseverance subdued the soil, and became known as one of the well-to-do and most highly respected farmers of their township.

Thomas was educated in the common schools, and while yet a young man, at the age of sixteen, enlisted in Company D, Forty-fourth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. His regiment was in the Army of the Cumberland, under General Thomas, and participated in the battles of Johnsonville, Duck River, Franklin, Tenn., and Nashville. He was honorably discharged at Paducah, Ky., July 2, 1865. Returning to Wisconsin, he acquired a quarter section of land in Sheldon township, Monroe county, where he now resides, engaged in general farming. He is one of the representative men of his town, and enjoys the confidence and respect of the community in which he resides.

He was married in June, 1867, at St. Mary's, to Miss Catherine Onalphy, daughter of a prominent Monroe county family. In

politics, Mr. Sullivan is a staunch believer in the principles of the Democratic party.

Levings N. Sweet, a prominent early settler of Lincon township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, a resident of section twenty-nine, is a native of Vermont, and was born at Hinesburg, Chittenden county, in that state, May 13, 1837. His parents, Ezekiel and Cleora (Mack) Sweet were also natives of Vermont of English extraction. They later settled in Madrid township, St. Lawrence county, New York, where they spent the balance of their lives. Our subject is the seventh child of a family of nine children and the only surviving member. The others were James M., Henry O., Sarah, who was the wife of D. A. Olan; Charles, Emery A., Mary A., Augustus, and Norman E. Sweet. Mr. Sweet, our subject, was educated in the common schools and Potsdam Academy, and remained at home until twenty years of age, when he came to Wisconsin, first stopping at Milwaukee, where he was in the employ of the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad. At the end of eight months he went to Iowa and engaged in teaching school. After two seasons he returned to Wisconsin, and for one year farmed in Waukesha county. In July, 1860, he came to Monroe county, and opened a farm for his brother near Tomah, in Lincoln, now LaGrange township. He cultivated the soil and improved the place continuously for twelve years, at the end of which time he came to his present location and bought three forties, which was for the most part wild land. He took possession in 1871, and erected suitable buildings and has since engaged in general farming and raising of live stock. Mr. Sweet has been prominently identified with the early organization of his township, and has represented the people officially on several occasions, and was the first to aid in the erection of the Kirby Union church. He has been a member of Tomah Lodge, No. 132, A. F. and A. M., since the early sixties.

January 28, 1862, Mr. Sweet was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Howard, a native of Milwauke, Wis., where she was born April 5, 1845. She is a daughter of Harry B. and Avilla (Webber) Howard, natives of Ohio. Four children were born to this union, viz.: Emory A., who died June 28, 1910, at the age of forty-eight years; Warren H., of Portland, Ore.; Arthur L., of Lincoln township, and Lottie C., wife of Mett Rose, of Lincoln township.

Arthur L. Sweet, one of the progressive farmers of Monroe county, who resides in section twenty-nine, Lincoln township, was born near Tomah, in LaGrange township, June 9, 1868. He

is a son of Levings N. and Sarah (Howard) Sweet, of Lincoln township,. Mr. Sweet attended the district school and remained on the homestead farm until he reached the age of twenty-four, when he purchased his present farm of 120 acres, which at that time was only partly improved. He erected a comfortable residence, large and commodious barns and outbuildings, and made other improvements, besides bringing the soil to a high state of cultivation. In addition to general farming he carries on an extensive dairy business, and has a fine herd of Holstein cattle. In fraternal matters, Mr. Sweet is a member of Tomah Lodge, No. 132, A. F. and A. M., Modern Woodmen of America, and the Woodmen of the World. He is also a member of the Union church.

On December 14, 1892, he was married to Miss Mabel A. Payne, daughter of H. S. and Beulah E. (Bisbee) Payne, of Sparta. Mrs. Sweet is the oldest of a family of three children. The others are Clarence H., who resides in the state of Washington, and Leo H., of North Dakota.

Norman E. Sweet, one of the early settlers and highly respected citizens of LaGrange township, was born in Hinesburg, Vt. His parents, Ezekiel and Cleora (Mack) Sweet, were natives of Vermont, from whence they moved to St. Lawrence county, New York, when our subject was two years old, and there died. Norman E. was the youngest of a family of eight boys and three girls, all of whom are now deceased excepting Levings N. Sweet, of Lincoln township, this county. Mr. Sweet came to Monroe county with his two brothers; Emery J. purchased 300 acres of land from the government, in LaGrange township, which at that time formed a part of Lincoln, and L. N. and N. E. Sweet purchased an interest later. In 1874 our subject sold his interest in this land and moved to section nine, LaGrange township, and purchased a farm of 120 acres; the residence having been burned in February of that year, a new one was immediately erected, which is still in use by his widow and son, Edgar C. Sweet. In 1904 a modern barn was built and many valuable and lasting improvements have been made. A pioneer in that section, Mr. Sweet took an active part in transforming Monroe county from a wild state to one of the highly cultivated farms and good homes. He took an active interest in local matters and was known as one of Monroe county's public spirited and high minded citizens, and his death, which occurred December 27, 1893, was mourned as a great public loss.

On April 15, 1864, Mr. Sweet was united in marriage with Miss Diana Barkley, a native of Upper Canada, and a daughter of

Henry P. and Catherine (Shaver) Barkley, also natives of Canada, where they spent their lives. Mrs. Sweet is the sixth child in order of birth in a family of nine children; those living are: Gordon, who lives in Ontario; Margaret, Winchester, Ontario; George, of Waddington, N. Y., and Elizabeth, who resides in Manitoba. Those deceased are Amos and Laney, Eliza and Almira. Mrs. Sweet is a lady of noble character, possessed of womanly virtues and a factor for good in her community. To Mr. and Mrs. Sweet were born three children, viz.: Carrie married Edwin J. Vandervort, and resides in the town of Tomah; Edgar Charles lives on the home farm, and Jessie Irene is the wife of D. C. Purdy, of LaGrange township.

John Peter Barkley, paternal grandfather of Mrs. Sweet, was a native of Schoharie county, New York, and lived to the age of seventy-five years; his widow, Delliah (Sperbeck) Barkley, who lived to be 107 years of age, died in 1867. John P. Barkley, his sister, and two children were once captured by the Indians and held for ransom; one child, born while in captivity, was never returned to its parents by the Indians, they claiming they would make "heap big chief" of him some day. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Sweet was Michael Shaver, a native of Canada; he married Miss Jane Baker, and both lived to be eighty years old. The first spring after Mr. and Mrs. Sweet took up their residence on the present homestead, they had some annoying experiences with the Indians; Red Eagle came to the house one day and demanded admittance, and when refused on account of his intoxicated condition, immediately took his hatchet and proceeded to batter down the door. He was captured and taken to Tomah, where he was fined $11 and made to pay for the door. While Mr. Sweet and others were at the trial, Mrs. Sweet remained at home, and very soon after their departure, the house was surrounded by Indians making search for the unruly one; among them was Artichoke, Good Bear and others, and after being made to understand the situation, and where the other Indian was, they withdrew. An Indian trail ran across this farm and it was no uncommon thing to see as many as twenty-five Indians at one time, and three are now buried near the barn.

Edgar C. Sweet, proprietor of East View farm, in section nine, LaGrange township, where he was born June 18, 1876, and has always lived, is a believer in up-to-date methods in dairying and general farming. He received his education in the district school, and after the death of his father, assumed the active management of the farm, and besides general farming and dairy-

ing, he is successful breeder of Guernsey cattle, Percheron horses, Poland China hogs and Brown Leghorn chickens. Mr. Sweet takes a commendable interest in the affairs of his township, and has held the office of treasurer. In December, 1897, he was married to Miss Jennie Carter, daughter of Arnold and Jane (Wilson) Carter, natives of New York. They have one child, Doris M. Sweet, born June 13, 1906.

Truman R. Talbot, county clerk of Monroe county, is a native of the "Badger state" and was born of English ancestry, on a farm near Whitewater, Wis., January 14, 1857, son of Robert A. and Ann (King) Talbot, natives of Cambridgeshire, England. They came to Rock county, this state, after marriage in 1849, where they engaged in farming until the spring of 1863, when they located in section thirty-four, Adrian township, Monroe county, on a 160-acre tract of wild land, the only building being a small log house, which was used for a home, and as time and circumstances demanded, log stables were built and later modern buildings were constructed and the land brought to a high state of cultivation. It was here that they made their home until 1888, when they removed to Tomah, where they resided until their death. He passed away in 1891, and his wife, the mother of our subject, survived until 1905, when she died at the age of eighty-one years. Mr. Talbot, the father of our subject, was a veteran of the Civil War, serving near the close as a private in Company A, Fifty-second Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers. He was counted among the prominent pioneers of Adrian township, and a man whose moral influence counted for much in his community. He was prominent in religious and church work, being one of the organizers of the Ridgeville Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Talbot, the subject, is the fifth child of a family of eight children, three sons and five daughters. The others are: Emma, wife of Francis Burroughs, of Beloit, Wis.; Sallie, wife of I. N. Palmer, of Tomah—she is now deceased; Fred K., of Tomah; Ella, deceased, who was the wife of the late L. R. Cole; Lottie, deceased; J. E., of Sioux City, Iowa; and Millie, wife of Harry Euckhausen, of Sparta.

Mr. Talbot attended the public schools of Adrian township, and the Tomah graded schools, and began for himself on the homestead farm in 1880, and was a resident of Adrian township until his election to his present office. He taught school for several terms in his home neighborhood during the winter season, attending to his farm duties during the summer season, and

during his residence there served as treasurer of his township for two years. Politically Mr. Talbot is a Republican staunch and true. He was first considered as the most available member of the party as a candidate for county clerk in 1906, and was elected to that office by a large majority. His efficiency was again demonstrated in 1908, by his renomination and election, and again in 1910 by a large and popular vote, reflecting great credit upon himself and giving entire satisfaction to his constituents. Mr. Talbot is one of the most progressive citizens, a man of strict integrity of character, a supporter of all worthy enterprises, and makes every effort to advance the best interests of Monroe county. Socially Mr. Talbot is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1881 the subject was united in marriage with Miss Emma Seibold, daughter of George and Armenia (Knapp) Seibold, of Ridgeville township. They have three children: Harry R., conductor on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, with headquarters at Sioux City, Iowa; Ray G., mechanical engineer with Fairbanks & Morse at Beloit, Wis., and Mabel A. Talbot, Sparta.

Robert John Taylor, the well-known and popular druggist of Sparta, comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He was born at Coleraine, Ireland, April 10, 1874, and came to America with his parents who first settled in Jackson county, Wisconsin, and later, about twenty-five years ago, moved to Sparta, where Robert received his education in the public and high schools. His first venture in business life was a position as clerk in the drug store of Edward Crane, when he was eighteen years of age, and after two years' service with Mr. Crane, he entered the store of F. N. Newton, and remained in his employ for eight years, where he mastered pharmacy in all its branches. In 1907 Mr. Taylor purchased the drug business of John W. Palmer, and has since, under the firm name of the Taylor Drug Company, successfully conducted the business, increasing the stock and otherwise enlarging the facilities to meet the growing demands. A leader in his line, he conducts a modern and up-to-date drug store, as his many friends will attest.

Fraternally Mr. Taylor is a member of the Masonic order, a Knight Templar, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and Modern Woodmen of America. He was married on May 19, 1909, to Miss Lenna Waring, daughter of E. I. Waring, of Sparta.

Mr. Taylor is the son of William and Margaret (McPherson) Taylor, who were married at Belrugh, Ireland, over half a

century ago, where a family of seven children were born as follows: Anna Jane, wife of Thomas Hunter, of Superior, Wis.; Martha P., wife of Edward Moe, of same place; Samuel Semple, a lumberman of Missoula, Mont.; William W., druggist, of Stevens Point; Dr. David A., of Bangor; Robert John, our subject, and Margaret, of Sparta.

William Taylor, father of Robert, was a native of Coleraine, Ireland, and after coming to America, engaged in farming as his principal occupation. He died in Sparta on November 12, 1908, at the age of eighty years. He was the son of William Taylor, born on the Rock of Gibraltar, and who fought in the battle of Waterloo in Napoleon's army, and Mrs. Taylor, our subject's mother, still retains the medal tendered to him at the time of his discharge by Queen Victoria which bears the date of 1793-1814.

Robert McPherson, maternal grandfather of Mr. Taylor, was the fourth child of a family of seven children; the others were John, James, Samuel, Thomas, Adam and Joseph. Mrs. Taylor, mother of Robert J., resides in Sparta, well preserved for one of her years, and blessed with an abundance of womanly virtues which merits the highest esteem in which she is held. She is now eighty-three years old.

Fred W. Teall, is a prominent citizen of Sparta, and a leader in his special line, that of gardener. He was born at Geneva, in the state of New York, on March 31, 1859, and is the youngest of a family of three children born to James and Elizabeth (Allsop) Teall, natives of New York and England respectively. James, the father of subject, followed the occupation of tile and brick making, and was for several years manager of the Geneva Tile Works. He introduced the first machine-made tile into the United States from Scotland. Both Mr. and Mrs. Teall spent their lives in New York state, where Mr. Teall died in 1904 at the advanced age of eighty-five years, and his widow passed away in 1906 at the age of seventy-nine. Their sons, Edward S. and Fred W., are the only surviving members of the family; the other child was Anna Teall.

Mr. Teall, our subject, received his education in the public and Union schools of Geneva, and began business life in a nursery. In 1884 he came to Sparta and entered the employ of T. B. Tyler, as superintendent of his stock farm, which was then stocked with Pole-Angus herds, and at that time was the most extensive stock farm in Sparta township. At the end of six years he embarked in the business of gardening and the raising of

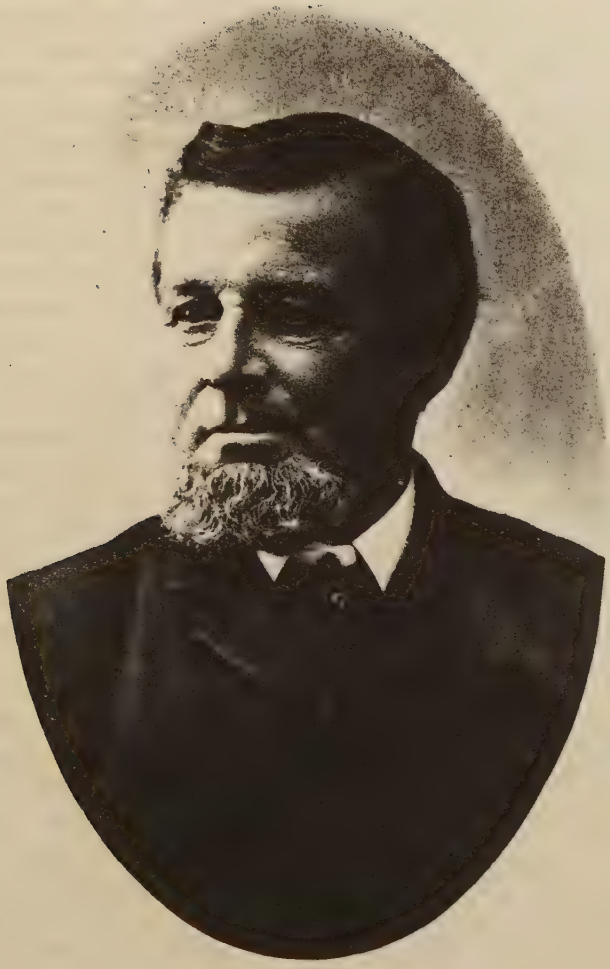
small fruits, which he continued for some eighteen years, and since then he has devoted his entire time and energy to gardening exclusively. His ten-acre tract has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and is one of the most productive spots in Monroe county, furnishing the wholesale market of Sparta with various kinds of seasonable garden truck. The year of 1911 was a most prosperous and eventful one for Mr. Teall, as the success attained made it possible for him to erect a beautiful bungalow residence for himself at number 511 Jefferson avenue. The building is thoroughly modern in every way, finished in old mission, with a perfect hot water heating system, making it one of the model homes in the city.

On April 1, 1879, Mr. Teall married Miss Fannie E. Cromwell, daughter of Edwin and Julia (Tyler) Cromwell, and their five children are named respectively: Robert J., who resides in California; Annie, wife of Rev. T. B. Thompson, and resides in Rockford, Ill.; Julia Elizabeth, and Thomas T. Teall, civil engineer and county superintendent of highways, Sparta.

Robert J. graduated from Beloit College at the age of twenty. Annie and Julia Elizabeth are also graduates of the same college, and Thomas T., engineering course, State University of Wisconsin.

John Teasdale, who was esteemed alike for his sterling worth as a man, and the public spirit, enterprise and tenacity of purpose which made him an important factor in the building up and development of a rich and prosperous portion of the state of Wisconsin, was born in Yorkshire, England, on February 9, 1829, and died at his residence in Sparta, February 9, 1911, just eighty-two years later, the final summons reaching him on his birthday. Many times during the last few weeks of his life, while confined to his bed with his life and strength fast ebbing away, did he ask his son Howard how many days it was until the ninth of February, it being his one great desire to live until his eighty-second birthday, and in this instance as all through life, his determination accomplished the desired end.

Mr. Teasdale left his native land in February, 1850, and settled first in Johnstown, N. Y., and while a resident of that state he met Miss Sarah Seymour, whom he wedded at Gloversville, in 1854, and who for more than half a century assisted him to meet and conquer the adversities of pioneer life, and to enjoy the fruits of their industry, she having died in this city July 20, 1895. The year following their marriage, Mr. Teasdale took his young bride, and animated with the same spirit which has caused hundreds of thousands of others to brave the hardships of pioneer



JOHN TEASDALE

life, he headed toward the "land of the setting sun," settling in Janesville, Wis., in 1855, the following year moving to Reedsburg, and in the spring of 1857, he arrived in the little village of Sparta, near and in which place the remainder of their lives was destined to be spent. Being a carpenter and joiner he immediately commenced contracting, one of the first jobs he secured being the construction of the Jackson store building, afterwards occupied by Rufus S. Dodge for many years, and now known as the Jackson building, occupied as a blacksmith shop by Mr. West. He also constructed the Dan Potter and Z. K. Jewett residences, both of which are still standing. During this time he built the first schoolhouse in the Blackburn district, north of this city. This building he contracted for $400. To show what conditions were at that time, he found on completion of this work that the town warrants which he accepted for pay could only be sold for 30 cents on the dollar, and this amount he had to accept, as the money was needed. This left him with a number of unpaid bills on his hands, among them one for $20 for hardware, which had been furnished by Walter Allen. Mr. Allen persistently endeavored to collect the bill, visiting Mr. Teasdale, who at this time was on the farm where the brick house now stands. Finally he found Mr. Teasdale and his wife wallowing around in the wet marsh one cold fall day, endeavoring to get sufficient hay to winter their only cow. Allen again insisted on his pay, and Mr. Teasdale told him that all he had was that one cow, and that if Allen would take that and leave him alone, he was welcome to it. This he refused, also a watch which was offered him. The next year Mr. Teasdale raised 275 bushels of wheat, which he sold to John Moffatt, under contract for 85 cents per bushel, but before the delivery was completed the price of wheat had dropped to 74 cents, and never again reached the 85-cent mark until after the war.

Mr. Teasdale moved on the farm north of this city, where the brick house now stands, in 1859, and succeeded there in accumulating 1,000 acres of land. His life was a busy one from the beginning, and as a result of his hard work, energy and perseverance, the brick house and other substantial buildings were erected by him, and he was considered among the most desirable and prominent citizens of his community. He became interested in the promotion of a cheese factory when the dairy business in Monroe county was in its infancy, and in this venture lost heavily. He also was a heavy loser in indorsing notes for his friends, and through these unfortunate ventures he was forced

to dispose of the original farm in order to save himself from financial ruin, and he then moved on to the Pomeroy farm, which he had acquired. There he remained until 1884, when he moved into this city. During most of his life here, he resided in the residence where the new Catholic church now stands, having sold that property to the Catholics a few years ago.

Nearly the entire rural telephone system out of this city has been laid under the direction of Mr. Teasdale, and for many years he and his old horse and the "Democrat" wagon were a familiar sight along the telephone lines.

There were three sons born to Mr. and Mrs. Teasdale, viz.: Frank, who died in 1870, and Howard and Joseph, both of whom survive and are residents of this city.

During the latter part of Mr. Teasdale's life, he was badly crippled with rheumatism, the result of exposure of the early years, but even this was not sufficient to prevent him from taking an active interest in every enterprise around him.

The deceased was a member of the Masonic order and also of the Methodist Episcopal church in which for many years he was an active worker.

Mrs. Jeddie Thurston, wife of the late Adelbert D. Thurston, of Leon township, was born June 1, 1865, in the town of Wells, Monroe county, Wis., and is a daughter of Henry and Mary Nichols, prosperous and influential citizens of that town. When seventeen years of age, in 1882, she was united in marriage with Mr. A. D. Thurston, and to them were born four children, all of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Minnie B., born November 2, 1884; Leah, born July 14, 1886; William H., born October 8, 1892, and Hazel, born December 6, 1898.

Mr. A. D. Thurston, deceased, was born in the township of LaFayette, Monroe county, March 22, 1864; his father, William Thurston, was one of the early and most respected residents of Farmer's valley in Wells township. Mr. Thurston spent his boyhood days on the homestead farm, attending the district school and assisting in the farm work. He was wide-awake and thrifty, and soon after reaching manhood, acquired a good farm in Leon township where he lived until his death, February 4, 1910, and was engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He was known as a successful farmer, a moral and upright citizen, and a man devoted to his home and family. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

William H., since the death of his father, has had the management of the homestead farm.

Charles Todd, vice president of the State Bank of Wilton, was born near Homer, Cortland county, N. Y., September 30, 1837, to Charles and Marie (Williams) Todd, on the same farm where his father was born, and died in 1838 at the age of thirty-six years. His widow, mother of our subject, survived until 1874 and died at the age of sixty-five years. Charles Todd, Sr., was a son of Dan Todd, a native of Connecticut, who, in 1794, came up the Tioughnioga river in a canoe and was one of the pioneer settlers of Cortland county. He died in 1842 at the age of sixty years. His wife, paternal grandmother of our subject, was Sarah Foot, who lived to the age of seventy years and died in 1845. The maternal grandfather of Charles Todd was Thomas Williams, whose wife's maiden name was Olive Blodgett; they were natives of Massachusetts, having been born near Springfield, that state; he was the son of Ambrose Williams and died at the age of sixty-eight; her death occurred in 1860, and tradition claims that his great great grandfather was a passenger on the Mayflower.

Charles Todd, Jr., was raised on a farm which was sold when he enlisted as a private in the Union Army on April 24, 1861, in Company D, Twelfth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the service at Elmira May 12, and his regiment was immediately transferred to Washington, D. C. He participated in the skirmish at Blackburn Ford, July 18, 1861, and was also in several of the important engagements in Virginia, including the battle of Bull Run. He served with distinction throughout his term of enlistment and received his honorable discharge at Elmira in May, 1863. After returning to his home in Homer he was employed for a time at general carpenter work, and in 1868 came to Wisconsin, locating in Sauk county, where he remained three years, until 1871, when he was employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in construction work. Since the spring of 1873, when he first came to Wilton, he has been a resident of Monroe county; he was first employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at tunnel No. 1, and for the next three years followed the occupation of railroad building, taking part in grading and track laying. His next employment was with Moll & O'Brien, with whom he remained three years, when he purchased a farm of eighty acres in section nineteen, Wilton township, where he was engaged in farming from 1883 to 1890. He then received from Gov. George R. Peck an appointment as messenger at the state capitol at Madison, and served in that capacity four years. He then returned to Monroe county and located in the village of Wilton, which has since been his home,

where he lives and enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him. He has served as justice of the peace almost continuously since 1876, and for several terms as clerk of the township. In 1903 he became vice president of the Wilton State Bank, in which capacity he is still engaged.

Mr. Todd is a man of large, wholesome public spirit and tense patriotism. Every movement that has for its motive and impulse the advancement of the city or county, is assured in advance of his hearty assistance and support; his energy and sagacity, which he is always willing to supplement in a financial way, have been the dominating influence of many a profitable project; his is a strong character, and one that by reason of its power and magnetism could not fail to be of effect in molding the thought and trend of the community of which it formed an integral factor.

On December 23, 1858, Mr. Todd was united in marriage with Miss Sarah E. Beck, daughter of William P. Beck, a substantial citizen of Homer, N. Y. She was born in 1840 and died in 1903, leaving, besides her husband, two children, viz.: Mary C., the widow of Imla Kellogg, and William E. Todd.

Herbert B. Tuttle, of section eleven, LaGrange township, who manages and carries on the 430-acre farm of Riley, Hart & Warren, known as the "Bonnie View" farm, was born in Baraboo, Wis., September 23, 1850, the son of Albert G. and Elizabeth (Clark) Tuttle, natives of Connecticut, who came to Wisconsin in 1846. The father first stopped at Madison, then went to Portage with a stock of goods and opened the first store at that place for Nat Dean. He afterward returned to Connecticut, entering into copartnership with David Munson. He returned to Wisconsin and Baraboo in 1848 and opened the first store there. In 1853 he purchased a farm near Baraboo, at that time being a leading horticulturist of the state, for which he secured many state premiums as a producer of Russian apple trees. He was the first president of the State Horticultural Society, and a prominent man of affairs. He died in LaGrange township in 1908 in his ninety-first year. His wife, mother of our subject, died at Baraboo at the age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of four children, viz.: Albert, deceased; Herbert B., subject of this sketch; Merritt I., born in 1854, and lives in Montana, and Edward K., of Jackson county, Wisconsin, was born in 1857.

Herbert B. had all the advantages of the district schools and was raised on a farm. In 1876 he came to Monroe county and located in Scott township, where for ten years he carried on a

200-acre cranberry marsh, from which the yield ran as high as 400 to 500 barrels a season. In 1886 he was burned out and then moved to Bear Bluff township, in Jackson county, where he engaged in cranberring for eleven years. In 1897 he returned to Monroe county and took charge of the Purdy cranberry marsh, near Valley Junction. After three years he moved to his present location and has since had charge of the "Bonnie View" farm. On this place there is twenty-seven acres of a cranberry marsh, with room for 110 more.

Mr. Tuttle was married in November, 1876, to Miss Laura C. Daniels, daughter of Luther Daniels, of Baraboo, Wis. She was born in 1860 and died in 1899, leaving, besides her husband, a family of four children, as follows: Genevieve, now Mrs. Louis Armstrong, of Brooklyn, Wis.; Hallie, Mrs. Burt Warrener, of Madison; Arthur E. and Hester A. live at home. Mr. Tuttle married the second time June 20, 1902, Miss Eva Cattle, daughter of Edward and Louisa (Miller) Cattle, of Juneau county, Wisconsin.

Mr. Tuttle was one of the organizers of Bear Bluff township, in Jackson county, and served as clerk of the town while a resident there. In fraternal matters he is a member of the Masonic order. The Tuttle family were originally from England and Mr. Tuttle can trace his ancestors in a direct line back to William the Conquerer. Two brothers were the first to represent the Tuttle family in this country, one, John Tuttle, member of New Haven colony, owned the original farm where Yale College is now located. The Clark family came from Connecticut.

Capt. William H. VanAntwerp, of Sparta, comes from one of Monroe county's pioneer families and was born December 3, 1869, the son of Henry and Mary (Loomer) VanAntwerp, natives of New York and Massachusetts, respectively. Both the VanAntwerps and Loomers came from prominent Holland ancestors. Henry VanAntwerp came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, with his father, William, in 1854, and settled in Sparta when the town was new and but a village. William was a blacksmith by trade and located in a small building on Beaver creek. He took a prominent part in politics and court affairs, and took a lively interest in all matters pertaining to the betterment of his city and county. He died in 1877. Henry Van Antwerp, father of our subject, was engaged in commercial trade in Sparta for a number of years. He died August 3, 1899, leaving his widow, who died November 4, 1911, at the age of sixty-five years.

William H. VanAntwerp is the oldest of a family of four children, he, with his sister, Minnie, wife of P. J. McBride, of

Portage, Wis., being the only ones surviving; Lewis and Jessie, wife of A. J. Hanton, of Minnesota, are deceased. He was reared on a farm and received his education in the public schools of Sparta. Starting out in life, he early learned the painters' and decorators' trade, which he followed for some time and later engaged in the laundry business, and still later in the restaurant and other lines. He is a Republican in political opinions and a conspicuous worker in the ranks of his party; he has also for years been prominent in military affairs, first serving as private and later as captain of the Wisconsin National Guards. He was married to his present wife in 1902.

Cornellius Vandervoort, retired farmer of Tomah, a native of Schoharie county, New York state, was born May 3, 1833. His parents were James R. and Mary (Baker) Vandervoort, also natives of New York, coming to Buffalo in 1844, they one year later continued their journey westward, locating with their family of eleven children in Waukesha, Wis., and after three years removed to Oconomowoc, and there purchased a farm on which he lived for ten years. It was in 1852, during the gold excitement in California, that our subject left the parental roof and joined the successful army of gold diggers, and during his stay there sent enough money to his father to pay in full for the farm that he had bought at Oconomowoc. James R., the father of our subject, was first married to Miss McIntire in the state of New York, and ten children were born to them, five of whom are now living. His second marriage occurred March 14, 1880, with Miss Mary Moon. In early life he learned the trade of a carpenter and became an expert mechanic, and one of the best hewers of timber to be found in the country. He was a man highly respected in the community, a sincere Christian gentleman and in religious affiliations a Methodist. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. He died January 4, 1881.

John Vandervoort, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War under Washington.

Cornellius attended the district school until he was sixteen years of age, and at the age of eighteen, in 1852, he started overland with his brother-in-law and his family for the gold fields in California, making the trip with an ox team, reaching their destination at the end of six months. Their first stop in the Golden state being forty-five miles from Sacramento. They resumed their journey further, where they engaged in their search for the golden metal. After one year they went to a point on the Yuba river, where the subject was taken ill with fever, resulting in a physical

breakdown, and becoming homesick, he abandoned further mining explorations and returned to Wisconsin, making the trip by the way of the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in New York City after a twenty-three days' trip, in 1855, after an absence of three years. Arriving at Oconomowoc, Wis., his former home, he bought two forty-acre tracts of land on each side of his father's farm and there resided for about six years. In the beginning of the sixties he moved with his family to Monroe county and bought eighty acres of land in LaGrange township, adding to this until he acquired 210 acres in the township, where he resided for some thirty years, since which time he has been a resident of the city of Tomah, where he owns a neat and comfortable residence, besides other valuable city property. Mr. Vandervoort has been a successful general farmer, and ran the first steam thrasher in Monroe county, and carried on that business for eight years. While conducting his farming interests he was ever successful in the raising of grain and grass crops, to which he gave special attention, as well as the raising of cattle and hogs and the dairy business. After bestowing largely the real estate he has acquired to his children, he still retains a sufficient amount of the world's goods to keep him in comfort during his declining years.

Mr. Vandervoort was united in marriage with Miss Julia Ann Gitman in 1856. Six children were born to this union, four of whom are living, viz.: W. E., born August 12, 1858; J. L., born July 9, 1860; Jacob, born October 19, 1862; Alfred, July 20, 1865. Mrs. Vandervoort is deceased. Mr. Vandervoort is a member of the Methodist church, the Knights of Pythias and the G. A. R. In August, 1864, he enlisted in Company H, Fifty-first Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served until the end of the war.

Frank E. Vandervort, of section eight, LaGrange township, is one of the wide awake natives of Wisconsin, and was born in LaGrange township September 6, 1867, son of Isaac, who was born in Schoharia county, New York, September 9, 1834, and Laura (Foss) Vandervort, a native of Vermont. Isaac Vandervort was nine years old when his parents moved to Wisconsin, and settled in Waukesha, which was then known as Prairieville. Two years later they moved to Merton and thence to Summit Center, where they remained two years. Isaac was fourteen years of age when he and his brother purchased forty acres of land near Oconomowoc, which they opened, improved and added to until they had one of the best farms in that section. Here Mr. Vandervort lived until 1860. When the Civil War broke out he offered

his services to his country, but was twice rejected. On his third application, however, he was accepted, and in 1864 assigned to Company I, First Heavy Artillery, and served one year. In 1866 he came to Monroe county and for many years was known as one of Monroe county's most public spirited and thrifty farmers. In 1859 he married Miss Laura A. Foss, who died at the age of forty-four years in 1885. In 1887 he married for his second wife Naomi Hoag, a native of Monroe county, New York. James R. Vandervort and Mary (Baker) Vandervort, grandparents of our subject, were also natives of the Empire state; they also came to Monroe county in 1866, where they passed the last days of their lives. He died at the age of ninety-two years and she at the age of seventy-five years. He was a carpenter by trade and a soldier in the War of 1812. The Vandervorts came from old and respected New England ancestry. The death of Isaac Vandervort occurred September 3, 1912.

Frank E., is the third child in order of birth in a family of eight children; the others are Edward J., of Tomah township; George, of Vilas county, Wisconsin; Mary, wife of John Trapp, of Tomah; Ody, of LaGrange township; Roy lives at Osseo, Wis.; Alvin J. and Lulu B. Mr. Vandervort attended the district schools and remained on the home farm until the age of twenty-one, when he began farming on his own account. In the fall of 1898 he moved to his present farm of 110 acres, which at that time was all timbered land but twelve acres; he has since cleared the balance, made many improvements and brought the land to a good state of cultivation. In 1898 he erected a small frame house which he occupied until 1905, when he built a commodious and modern brick residence. His barn, erected in 1899, was enlarged in 1912, and a fine stone basement added, and in the same year a silo was built. Mr. Vandervort is one of the substantial and progressive farmers of Monroe county, and takes a commendable interest in affairs of his town, as well as in the county. He has represented his township on the side board and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

He was married on December 25, 1888, to Miss Lettie Woodard, a native of Watertown, N. Y., and daughter of Wilson and Delia (Taft) Woodard, of Tunnel City, Monroe county. They came to Wisconsin when Mrs. Vandervort was one year old, and settled in Greenfield township, where they continued to make their home until their death. They were the parents of seven children, viz.: Lettie, now Mrs. Vandervort; Anna E., wife of Byron Johnson, of Tunnel City; D. T., of Riverside, Calif.; Tillie, who was the wife

of Frank Johnson, died in October, 1903, aged forty years; Delia, wife of Henry Morse, of Warren; Kittie, wife of Odie Purdy, LaGrange township, and Wilson D., of Greenfield township.

To Mr. and Mrs. Vandervort have been born three children, viz.: Laura, Leon W., and Frank W. Vandervort.

Rollie Vandervort, a native of LaGrange township, Monroe county, who resides on his farm of ninety-three acres in sections twenty and twenty-one, this township, was born in Pleasant valley, March 25, 1886, son of Alvin J. and Lottie (Cooms) Vandervort, natives of Oconomowoc and Baraboo, Wis., respectively. They came to Monroe county in an early day, and at that time much of the township consisted of wild land covered with stumps, with no wagon road. In 1883, when twenty-one years of age, the father married and located in Pleasant valley, and for several years was employed in the McKanna logging camp and later settled in Tomah, where he built a home, which he later traded for the farm where our subject now resides. He was born in 1862 and died in 1898, aged thirty-six years. His wife, mother of our subject, who also was born in 1862, survived until 1905, when she passed away at the age of forty-three years. Besides our subject, they had one daughter, Eva, who resides at Tomah and is unmarried.

In 1908 Mr. Vandervort married Miss Mattie Griggs, daughter of Clarence and Carrie (Griswold) Griggs, of LaGrange township. They have two children, Dales James, born November 1, 1909, and Helen L., born October 18, 1911. Mr. Vandervort is a member of the Mystic Workers, and is one of the solid young men of pleasing personality of his township. He is fair and square in all his dealings, and promises to be one of the leading citizens.

Lawrence E. van Loon, a successful farmer of section twenty-eight, LaGrange township, was born in Holland, June 27, 1840, son of Everhardus and Binke (LaFleur) van Loon, natives of Holland. The father died when our subject was eight years old, and a short time thereafter the mother came to America with her family of five sons, as follows: Lawrence E.; John, who is a resident of La Crosse county; Rinnert, deceased; Elbertus, of La Crosse county, and Paul, of San Francisco, Cal. The mother lived to the age of forty-six years and died in 1860. The father, at the time of his death was a government official of the province of Friesland, which was a life position.

Lawrence E., the subject of this sketch, received his education in the district schools, and during his youth was employed as a farm hand. At the age of twenty-four years, in 1864, he pur-

chased a farm at La Crescent, Minn., where he resided and engaged in farming on his own account until 1880, at which time he removed to the city of La Crosse, Wis., and in 1882 came to LaGrange township, Monroe county, and purchased his present farm of forty acres known as the "Bostwick farm," where he has since resided, devoting himself to the culture of small fruits, and finding in the quiet and independence of his home and farm life congenial employment. He is known as one of the substantial citizens of LaGrange township. In fraternal matters Mr. van Loom has been a member of the Masonic order for over forty years, and with his wife affiliates with the Methodist Episcopal church.

In 1860 Mr. van Loon was united in marriage with Miss Albertje Tuininga, daughter of John Tuininga, of La Crescent, Minn. The children of this union are Edward, of Danville, Ill.; Tryntje, deceased, was the wife of Albert Rau, and Reed, who resides in Montana. The mother of this family died in 1890 at the age of forty-two years, and Mr. van Loom was married again, this time to Miss Emelie Damerow, daughter of Gottlieb and Louisa Damerow, of Jacksonville, Wis. Of this marriage there has been four children, viz.: Mamie, Wesley, who died in 1910 at the age of sixteen years; Ida L., and Neil, all of whom reside at home with their parents.

William H. Verken, one of the progressive farmers of Monroe county, where he was born July 16, 1861, the son of Lawrence and Catherine Verken, the former a native of Prussia and the latter of Germany. The father came to America in 1856, and settled at St. Mary's in the town of Jefferson in Monroe county, where he worked as a farm laborer, receiving $8 per month for the first year. In 1858 he was married to Mrs. Catherine Delp, who emigrated to America in an early day and located at Mansfield, Ohio, where she married Mr. P. Delp, who, during the gold excitement in 1849, went to California. After a short time he returned to the East, and died in 1851. They had three children, one of whom, Mrs. Catherine (Delp) Sprich, survives and lives in Milwaukee. Previous to his marriage Mr. Delp had taken a homestead in the town of Sheldon, whither the family moved after his death, carrying all their effects in a wagon drawn by oxen. There were no roads at that time but Indian trails, and the mother was compelled in pioneer fashion to take up the ax and cut down timber in order to open a road for the wagon. Many times did she have to resort to this before she reached the land which was to be her future home, where she

reared her family. It was on this homestead where our subject was born and where he now resides. After marriage Mr. Verken cleared up 110 acres of this wild land and converted it into one of the best farms in Sheldon township. In those early days deer and all kinds of wild game were abundant. Mr. Verken, father of William H., acquired 160 acres of land in Sheldon township, which he afterwards sold. He stood high as a man, and was upright in all his dealings, a successful farmer and sheep raiser, having at times as high as 500 head. He also kept a good grade of horses and cattle, but he derived his best revenue from selling wheat and other grains. He was a Republican in politics and held the office of supervisor and director of the school board. He died in 1911, a member of the Evangelical church, as was his wife.

William H. attended the district schools and remained at home. He was the only son and the mainstay of his father. He was married April 3, 1884, at Madison, Wis., to Miss Carrie Detrich, and they had six children, of which three are living: Abner E., born January 24, 1892; Melvin L., born February 27, 1894, and Miss Violet C., born June 16, 1897. Mrs. Verken was educated at Madison, Wis., where her father for many years was a leading merchant. She is the third child in a family of seven. The family went to California in May, 1884, where they now reside. Besides her devotion to her home and family she is a leader in social matters, and is deeply interested in church work. For many years she has been a teacher in the Sunday school, and the missionary society finds her one of the most zealous workers. Mrs. C. Verken has been corresponding secretary of the Home Mission Society for a number of years.

Mr. Verken is one of the public spirited men of his town and besides general farming, conducts an extensive dairy on his 160-acre farm in section thirty-one, and has made many improvements. Erected a modern residence in 1900, and barn in 1908. His farm is equipped with up-to-date appliances, and his three large trout ponds are well stocked with plenty of speckled trout, while his two springs furnish an abundance of water for his house and barn. In politics he is a Republican.

Leo Vieth, one of the successful and influential farmers of Ridgeville township, was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, April 1, 1865, the son of Henry and Emstena (Noth) Vieth, both natives of Germany. The father emigrated to America in 1848, and first settled in Walworth county, this state. He later came to Monroe county, and acquired a farm of 200 acres in

Ridgeville, and was one of the early settlers of that town, where he experienced the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life. He was a progressive farmer, an honorable, upright and high minded citizen, and occupied a prominent place in the section in which he lived. He died in 1897 and the mother passed away in 1882, honored and respected by all who knew them. They reared a family of nine children, three of whom are now living.

Leo received his education in the public schools, which he attended up to his eighteenth year, and remained at home with his parents as long as they lived. After the death of his father, he acquired the old homestead in sections fourteen and twenty-three, Ridgeville township, in which he had taken an active part to improve. He was his father's mainstay, and for years preceding his father's death, had the active management of the farm. Since coming into possession of the homestead he has made many improvements by bringing the land to a higher state of cultivation, erecting buildings, etc., amounting to over $8,000. He is one of Monroe county's successful and up-to-date farmers and a man who stands high in his community. He takes a prominent and active part in the affairs of the county, is strictly upright and honorable in his dealing with his fellow-men, and holds the confidence of the people, In 1901 he was elected to the office of sheriff of the county, a position he held for two years, discharging the duties of the office fairly and impartially. He is now (1912) the nominee of the Republican party for the same office, and as the nomination is considered as good as election, it is safe to say that Mr. Vieth will be the next sheriff of Monroe county. He was chairman of the town of Ridgeville for twelve years.

In fraternal matters, Mr. Vieth is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Pythias. He was one of the promoters and organizers of the Monroe County Cyclone Insurance Company (incorporated), which began business in 1911, and the company now has over 300 policies in force and their business is extending rapidly. He is also a director in the German Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Henry G. Vincenz is one of the hustling young farmers of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, where he was born February 12, 1876, and raised. He is the son of Frederick A. and Carrie W. (Mausch) Vincenz; his father was a native of Saxony, Germany, and his mother was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin. The father came to America some time during the fifties

and located in Jefferson county, where he worked as a farm laborer for some time; in 1860 he moved to Leon township, in Monroe county, where he also worked at farming, until about the time the Civil War broke out, and he enlisted in Company K, Third Regiment Wisconsin, June, 1860. After serving three years, he returned to Monroe county and again engaged in farming. In 1867 he was married in Jefferson county, and they had a family of eight children, four of whom are living, Henry, our subject, being the sixth child. In 1887 Mr. Vincenz purchased a farm of 180 acres in sections four and nine in the township of Ridgeville, which was soon converted by them into an ideal family homestead, where they lived the remainder of their lives. Mr. Vincenz died in 1900, and Mrs. Vincenz in 1883. They were highly respected by all who knew them, and considered among the leading farmers of the township. They were members of the Methodist church.

Upon the death of his father, Henry G. inherited the greater part of the homestead farm, to which he afterward added a twenty-acre tract adjoining, so that his farm now contains about 140 acres and is a fine piece of ground. His residence is modern, and Mr. Vincenz lives here with his sister, Miss Paulina. Mr. Vincenz is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church at Norwalk, Wis., and is surrounded by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Vincenz is at the present time a member of the Farmers' Equity, a stockholder of the Norwalk Independent Telephone Company; also a stockholder of the Farmers' Creamery Company at Norwalk, and a director of school district number four. He is a Republican in his politics, and is active in all matters which point towards the development of his town and county.

Levi Wallace, a prominent and influential citizen of Sheldon township, is the son of John and Harriet (Otter) Wallace, and was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, October 20, 1839. His father was born in 1811, and lived for over forty years in Morgan county, Ohio. His mother was born in Pennsylvania, in 1813. They reared a family of twelve children, ten of whom, six sons and four daughters, are now living, our subject being the fourth child in order of birth. The parents came to Wisconsin in 1882, locating in the town of Sheldon, and were among the prominent settlers of that section. They followed the lives of farmers and were among the well-to-do and highly respected citizens of the town. There they spent the last days of their lives, and died honored and esteemed by the whole community. The death of

the father occurred in 1890, and that of the mother in 1898. On the paternal side, Mr. Wallace traces his ancestry to Scotland, his grandfather Wallace having come from that country to America in a very early day.

Levi Wallace received his education in the public schools, and when yet a young man came to Wisconsin in February, 1865. At the age of twenty-one years he started out in life for himself on a rented farm, which he operated for some four years, and then spent a short time in the West. Returning to Wisconsin, he lived in Vernon county until 1879, then came back to Monroe county, and in the fall of that year purchased a farm of 200 acres in section twenty-two, Sheldon township, where he has since resided. He subsequently added forty acres to his original purchase, and has made many improvements. In 1887 he erected a commodious residence, and in 1894 built a well-constructed barn. Starting out in life poor, and with only his hands, brains and boundless energy, he met with many hardships and privation at first, which he met with indomnitable courage and overcame, and in the end gained success, and is to-day one of the influential and successful general farmers in Monroe county. Besides his farming operations he has been identified with many public enterprises, both in a business and representative way, and by his honorable dealings and upright manly character has attained to a position of prominence. In all matters which he considers for the good of his town and county, he lends his co-operation and support. In 1880, he wes elected chairman of the town board, a position he held for ten years, and for a period of five years was assessor of the town, and for eighteen years has been treasurer of his school district. He also held many important offices while a resident of Vernon county. As a member of the legislature for four years, prior to 1885, he was prominently identified with much important legislation, and filled the position with honor to himself and the satisfaction of his constituents. He was one of the organizers and president of the first creamery operated in the town of Sheldon, and is now connected in an official way with the Farmers' Creamery of the same town. Mr. Wallace has been an extensive dealer in and shipper of live stock, having begun his operations in this line in 1868. He has been the general manager and buyer for the Western Livestock Association for more than twenty-five years.

Mr. Wallace has been twice married. First, in 1866, to Miss Hattie Dalton, of Vernon county, by whom he had four children, two of whom are now living, viz.: Minnie, wife of C. W. Harmon,

of Virginia, Minn., and Marian O., of Beach, N. D. The first Mrs. Wallace died in 1880, and he married for his second wife Miss Civillia J. Appleman, who was the eighth child in a family of eleven children, six of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Elizabeth, wife of Henry Smith, of La Forge, Wis.; Eva, wife of Jefferson Perkins; Matilda C., wife of John Edgar; George and Phillip, all of Vernon county, Wisconsin; and Mrs. Wallace. Her father was born in 1825, and died April 16, 1893. Her mother was born in 1830, and died November 29, 1863. They were among the prominent and very early settlers of Vernon county. To Mr. and Mrs. Wallace have been born six children, viz.: Lena C., born December 21, 1879; Albert A., born January 5, 1882; George R., born February 20, 1883; Susan H., born November 3, 1885; Harrison M., born February 5, 1889; and Millie Flo, born October 6, 1890.

In fraternal matters Mr. Wallace is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has filled all the chairs of the order. Politically, Mr. Wallace is a Progressive Republican and takes an active interest in the affairs of the party.

George H. Warren, whose death occurred at Tomah, Wis., October, 1911, was a leader in the commercial life of Tomah and an illustrious example of that type of enterprising intelligence and successful business men which has given that prosperous and growing city the advanced station it holds among the cities of Monroe county. He was a native of Rutland county, Vermont, born December 14, 1837, and was a son of John H. and Lida (McGregor) Warren. Mr. Warren was in the best sense a thorough and practical business man, whose clear-cut, honorable methods, skillful management of affairs and sterling manliness in all his varied relations made him a leader among his associates, and a force of good in the community in which he lived. His life was clear, his motives pure and no one could come within the range and sphere of his influence without recognizing the force of his strong personality and integrity, elements of character which had much to do with securing to him the high place he held in business and commercial circles, as well as in his social and other relations. For forty years Mr. Warren was continuously and closely identified with the financial interests of Tomah, and his memory is cherished and kept in grateful remembrance for the important part he played in the material development of both the institutions with which he was so closely connected and the city in which he lived and loved. His father, John H. Warren, was a native of Scotland, and by trade a carpenter and contractor. He came to

Wisconsin from western New York in the early fifties, with a family of three sons and one daughter, viz.: John F., George H., Charles H. and Laviene, and settled in the town of Stoughton, where he followed his trade as carpenter and builder, and for ten years was engaged in the retail lumber business. In 1868 he moved to Tomah, where he also engaged in the lumber trade, which he followed up to the time of joining his son, Charles H., at Shenandoah, Ia., a short time before his death, when he returned to Tomah and made his home with George H. He was a great Bible student, popular and well known in business and social circles; of kind disposition and considerate of those near and dear to him. In his early years he took deep interest in music, took instructions at Boston and became a noted singer and taught vocal music in his native state, and also after coming to Wisconsin. Was a member of the Boston Glee Club. His death occurred in 1892.

George H. Warren received a limited education, attending the common schools until he became twelve years of age. He lived under the paternal roof until the age of nineteen and worked at the carpenter trade with his father until he was twenty-two. He began his long and prosperous career as night operator in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and for twenty-three years was employed as night operator and billing clerk, and was then employed as station agent at Tomah, Wis., by the same company for some twelve years. In 1871 he associated with his younger brother, Charles H., secured a contract from the railroad company to furnish railroad ties. They furnished all the ties used by the company for the roadbed between Chicago and Milwaukee; they then became purchasing agents for the company, which position was held for fifteen years. When the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road purchased the Wisconsin Valley road, Charles H. was made superintendent, with offices at Tomah, Wis., and continued to fill that position until promoted to superintendency of Shenandoah (Iowa) branch. Retiring from the railroad business, Mr. Warren purchased the lumber interests of his father at Tomah, and for six years successfully conducted that business. In 1888 he organized the Warren Bank of Tomah, with John H. as president and George H. as vice president and Winfield W. as cashier. With a capital of $10,000 the bank began business and has had deposits of over half a million dollars. Up to the present time the stock has been owned and controlled by the Warrens and has always been considered one of the soundest institutions in the county. He was prominent in Masonic circles and

had attained to the degree of Knight Templar. In politics he was a Cleveland Democrat.

On February 26, 1860, he was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Stoughton, who was a native of Vermont, and a daughter of George Stoughton, whose brother was the founder of Stoughton. To this union was born one son, Winfield W., now president of the Warrens' bank.

Mr. Warren passed away in the full strength of his mental vigor, and though his going was universally felt to be a public loss and by those near to him as a loss that nothing can fully repair. It is to them and to all a source of consolation to know that he left the enduring influence of a good life and the lasting heritage of an honored name.

Franklin Webb, a highly respected farmer and resident of Wellington township, purchased his farm of 160 acres in sections twenty-two and fifteen in 1876, which has since been his home. He was born on December 11, 1835, in New York state, the son of Napthali and Hannah (Hall) Webb. The Webb family descended from three brothers of that name who came to America from England in an early day, and the grandfather of Franklin, (Libeous) Webb, settled in Connecticut and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Napthali Webb was born in Connecticut and was one of a family of five children. They moved from there to Oswego county, New York, where they lived until some time during the fifties, when Napthali, with his family of four children, moved to Jefferson county, Wisconsin, and lived there until his death at the age of ninety-four. He was one of the early pioneers of Jefferson county, who passed through the trials and privations of the early days and did much toward the development of his town. He raised a family of fourteen children, seven of whom are living.

Franklin Webb is the tenth child; his brother, William Webb, was a soldier in the Civil War, serving in the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry until the close. Franklin lived with his parents and worked on the farm until he was forty-one. He was married on August 16, 1857, in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, to Miss Elizabeth Crout, and moved to the town of Wellington, in Monroe county in 1876. He had purchased his farm there in 1873, and has since been a successful general farmer and a most valuable citizen to his neighborhood. His land was unimproved when he bought it, and with the many years of hard work and economical perseverance, he brought it to its present high state of cultivation and made it one of the ideal country homes of the township.

His method of farming and his business dealings with his neighbors won for him the confidence and esteem of all who know him. Both he and Mrs. Webb are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is now retired from active life on account of poor eyesight, and his son, Hiram, a bright and thrifty farmer, manages the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb have a family of five children, all of whom were born in Jefferson county, viz.: Clarence F., born June 20, 1858; George W., born September 10, 1859; Jerry W., born January 4, 1861; Hiram L., born January 3, 1863, and Elmer M., born November 26, 1867. Mrs. Webb was one of a family of twelve children, of whom three boys and two girls are now living. She was born at Martin, Ohio, January 20, 1840. Her father, Nicholas Crout, who was born in France, emigrated from the state of Ohio to Walworth county, Wisconsin, in 1843, and in 1848 moved to Jefferson county, where he bought a farm of 120 acres. He afterwards moved to California, where he died in 1888. Her mother, Catherine Talbot, was born in Germany and died in Jefferson county in 1865 at the age of forty-four years. They were members of the Freewill Baptist church.

Thomas Welch, a prosperous farmer of Wellington township, was born May 6, 1857, to Patrick and Elizabeth (Quirk) Welch, natives of Ireland. The father came to America in early life and first located in New York, where he worked as a laborer for some time, and where he was married and raised a family of six children. In the fall of 1864, the father, with his family, came to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled in the Black valley, in Wellington township, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land in section eight, to which he subsequently added, until at the time of his death, which occurred October 5, 1908, he owned 120 acres. He was among the early settlers of Black valley, and the wild land which he acquired, was by hard work and perseverance, converted into a valuable and productive farm. He was honorable and upright in all his dealings and gained many friends, which he retained. In religious affiliations he and his wife, who died in 1904, were devoted members of the Catholic church.

Thomas received his education in the public schools, which he attended until his seventeenth year, and made his home with his parents, though at the early age of fifteen he started in life for himself, receiving $10 per month as a farm laborer, which occupation he followed for several years before buying a farm of his own. In 1892 he was married to Miss Catherine Egan, daughter of Peter Egan, of Wellington township, who came with his family

to Monroe county in 1859, where he purchased 200 acres of wild land in the town of Wellington. To Mr. and Mrs. Welch have been born seven children, of whom six are now living, viz.: Mary E., born May 25, 1894; Catherine, born February 2, 1896; Thomas, born October 10, 1898; Agnes, born January 25, 1900; Donald, born July 10, 1904, and James, born February 5, 1908.

Prior to his marriage Mr. Welch had acquired seventy-four acres of land in section eight, Wellington township, to which he has since added forty acres, and is now the owner of 114 acres of choice land. He is a successful farmer and keeps his place well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs. He has made many valuable improvements; built his residence in 1904, and erected a large and commodious barn, 32 x 54 feet, with other substantial outbuildings. Two deep wells and a fine spring of running water, furnish his house and barn with an abundant supply at all seasons. Besides being successful in farming, Mr. Welch is a public spirited and influential citizen, and for eighteen years has been clerk of the school board.

Simon J. Wells, one of the prosperous and influential farmers of Wells township, is a native son of Monroe county, Wisconsin, and was born in the town of Wells January 11, 1858. His parents were James and Minerva (Cline) Wells, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father came to Wisconsin in 1853, and for five years followed the occupation of sheep and horse drover. He made his home in Monroe and La Crosse counties, until his marriage in La Crosse county, about 1857. He was a man of energy and thrift, and became the owner of 380 acres of land. He was a successful farmer and made a specialty of raising Oxford sheep, cattle and hogs. He took an active interest in town and county matters, and for two years was chairman of the town board and a member of the board of supervisors, and in politics a Democrat. He lived a long and useful life, his death occurring in 1904. Wells township was named in his honor, and is a fitting compliment to a worthy pioneer and citizen. His wife, mother of our subject, still (1912) survives, and is a resident of Sparta.

Simon J. was raised on his father's farm, and during his boyhood attended the district schools and assisted in the farm work. He remained on the homestead with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-eight years. He has followed farming during his whole life; has been generally successful in his undertakings and is known as one of the prosperous, public spirited citizens of Monroe county, and all matters pertaining to the welfare of his

community, received his hearty support. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party.

The marriage of Mr. Wells occurred on May 27, 1886, to Miss Clara Lee, daughter of Peter Lee. Six children have been born to them, viz.: Frances, Fern, Lee, Myrtle, James and Myra Wells.

Will N. Wells was born in the town of Greenwood, Oceana county, Mich., February 3, 1865. He is the son of Rufus Frank Wells and Fannie Fortune Wells, both descendants of Revolutionary families, which settled in New York and Pennsylvania at an early day.

Mr. Wells came to Michigan with his parents when that state was a territory, being pioneers there and also in Wisconsin. Rufus Wells was a carpenter by trade and helped to build many of the earlier houses in Black River Falls during the fifties; failing health forced him to abandon the trade and he engaged in the mercantile business in 1870, which he followed until his death.

Will N. came to Humbird with his parents, where his father opened a pioneer hardware store in 1870. Was educated in the common schools of that place, going to Dakota with his father in 1878 and being pioneer settlers at Gary. His father died at Gary the following year, when subject of this sketch was attending school at Humbird; he went to Neillsville in 1880 and had one year in the high school. Financial circumstances compelled him to abandon school and he entered the printing office of the Clark County Courier, at Neillsville, to learn the trade. The remainder of his education was acquired in the "school of experience" and he graduated from a country printing office. In 1884 he purchased a half interest in the Neillsville Times, selling out six months later; and until 1890 he followed the occupation of journeyman printer, working in many of the large cities of the country.

In December, 1890, he returned to Black River Falls, Wis., and leased the Jackson County Journal, which he conducted for two years. On September 11, 1891, he was married to Miss Margaret Kerrigan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Kerrigan, of Sparta, the latter being pioneer settlers of that place.

In December, 1892, he gave up the lease of the Journal and in January, 1893, was elected engrossing clerk in the state senate at Madison.

In September, 1903, was appointed deputy collector of internal revenue for the La Crosse division, comprising ten counties of western Wisconsin, and served in that capacity until June 1, 1900. Upon receiving the appointment to that position he moved with his family to Sparta in February, 1894, where he has since

resided. Since leaving the internal revenue service he has been engaged in the business of stationery dealer for seven years, and for the past four years one of the proprietors and editor of the Monroe County Democrat.

He served three years as alderman and two years as supervisor of the third ward of the city of Sparta and three years as its mayor, during which time many municipal improvements were inaugurated. His family consists of five children, three girls and two boys, being according to age, Cora, Edith, Robert, Rufus and Margaret.

Herman Wendorf, one of the prominent German farmers of Ridgeville township, Monroe county, was born December 23, 1882, in Dodge county, Wisconsin, the son of August and Mary (Springborn) Wendorf, both natives of Germany. His father came to America some time during the fifties and first located in Milwaukee, where he was married, and shortly afterward moved to Dodge county. They were prominent and thrifty farmers, and lost no time in working their way to comfortable circumstances, and are now living in practical retirement as the result of their early years of toil and perseverance and are considered among the leading citizens of the township. The father is now (1912) sixty-five years of age and the mother is sixty-two. Both are members of the Lutheran church. They raised a family of eleven children, all of whom are living.

Herman was the fifth child of the family and lived at home until he was twenty-one; he attended the district school until he was fifteen years old and then took a thorough business course in the Hoffman College at Milwaukee, Wis., after which he embarked in the saloon business in Wilton, Monroe county, and conducted this for about one year. This enterprise, however, proved too slow for his ambitious nature and he decided to make a trip through the West in search of his fortune, and he went to North Dakota, but after a short visit through that part of the country he returned to Wilton, and with his two brothers, purchased a 200-acre tract of land in section sixteen, Ridgeville township, which they conducted together successfully. Herman afterward purchased the interests of both the others, which he still owns and where he has since resided. He was married on March 25, 1908, to Miss Freda Schultz, daughter of William and Minnie Schultz, who came to Monroe county in an early day.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendorf have two children, viz.: Gilmore, born December 18, 1910, and Barbara, born March 31, 1912. Their home is ideal in every respect, and is well equipped with stock

and the necessary machinery for the successful operation of the farm, making it one of the finest country homes in the county. Mr. Wendorf has a splendid dairy business in connection, with twenty-nine head of fine milch cows, from which he realizes a substantial revenue in the sale of milk to the creamery; he also has a large herd of the best breed of hogs, some of which are always ready for the market. While Mr. Wendorf is classed among the younger farmers, he is nevertheless a hustling leader in those ranks, and casts his vote regularly for the Republican candidates; has always been active in the interests of that party. Both he and Mrs. Wendorf are members of the Lutheran church.

Herman A. Westphal, owner and proprietor of a fine 160-acre farm in section twenty-seven, Adrian township, is a native son of Monroe county, born August 3, 1869, and is one of a family of ten children born to Gotlieb and Amelia (Marquardt) Westphal, both natives of Germany. The others are Augusta, wife of Adolph Sommerfield, of Tomah township; Adeline, wife of Fred Damrow, of Adrian township; Albertena, wife of William Bakhouse, of the town of Adrian; William, of Adrian; Amelia, wife of William Matthews, of Tomah township; August, of Adrian; Emma, married William Rieke, and resides in Adrian; Albert lives on the homestead farm, and Alvina, now Mrs. John Rehberg, lives in Adrian township.

The parents of our subject came to America nearly fifty years ago, and first located at Tomah, where they remained a short time, and finally settled on a farm in section thirty, Adrian township, and there made their home until 1897, when they moved to the city of Tomah, where they have since lived.

Herman A. received his education in the district schools and remained on the home farm until he was seventeen years old, and then began to depend upon his own resources for a livelihood. In 1891 he purchased his present farm, which he has since improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. He has cleared some twelve acres, built a large barn in 1903, and a modern house in 1904, together with granary and other outbuildings, besides making various other improvements. In April, 1891, he was married to Miss Ida Schroeder, of Richland Center, Wis., and one daughter, Huldah, born February 14, 1892, was the only child of this union. Mrs. Westphal passed away in 1896, and Mr. Westphal married for the second time in 1897, Miss Emma Keller, of Wilton township, and to this union have been born two children, viz.: Elna B., born August 18, 1899, and Harry, born December 16, 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Westphal are members of the German Lutheran church of Ridgeville.

Mrs. Sarah A. Whiting*, who resides on section five, Leon township, is a native of Wisconsin, and was born at Kenosha, June 26, 1844. She is a daughter of Daniel C. and Lucy (Lease) Whiting, both natives of England. They came with their parents in an early day to America and located for a time in New York state, and afterwards the family moved to Libertyville, Ill., where Mr. Whiting kept the Temperance House, which he afterwards sold and engaged in blacksmithing, later removing to Kenosha county, Wisconsin, where Mrs. Whiting, our subject, was born. She is of a family of five children, three sons and two daughters, she being the only surviving member. The brothers were all teachers.

Mrs. Whiting has been twice married, and both husbands served three years in the Civil War, and by the first marriage she had two children, Charles W. and Ida. By her second marriage she also has two children, Albert M. and Lulu May. Mrs. Whiting is a lady of intelligence and refinement, and has always been devoted to her home and family. She has resided on her present farm in Leon since 1897

Henry J. Willgrubs, son of Heye and Frederica (Wildhagn) Willgrubs, was born September 9, 1859, in Madison, Wis. His parents came from Germany, the father in 1855, first located in Madison, where he worked as a teamster for some time; he was born on January 9, 1819, married in 1858, and died in 1894. The mother was born September 1, 1830. They had a family of four children, two of whom are now living, Henry J. and George M., who is a carpenter by trade and resides in Madison. In 1861 the father moved to Brush Creek valley in Monroe county, and with his brothers, Jibbe and Menke Willgrubs, bought 160 acres of wild land in section thirty-six, Jefferson township, and here experienced the ups and downs of pioneer life, with few neighbors and far apart; but, as the years passed, they became successful farmers. Heye Willgrubs subsequently bought the share of his two brothers in the farm, and two years before his death left the homestead in charge of our subject, who is now one of the leading farmers of this section.

One of the hardships of the early settlers in this section of the country was the marketing of grain and other farm products. They had to be hauled or driven over the then poorly constructed roads, across the hills forming the divide between the headwaters of the La Crosse and the Kickapoo rivers, twenty-two miles, to

Sparta, then the nearest railroad town. It usually required two days to make the round trip.

Henry J. Willgrubs attended the district schools until he was fourteen years old, then took a course at Norwalk school, and later attended private school at Madison, taking a thorough course in business and book-keeping. He lived at home with his parents, continuing the management of the farm until he was thirty-one years old; he was married on April 22, 1891, to Miss Frieda Maier, daughter of John and Teressia Maier, also natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Willgrugs now have a family of three children, viz.: Albert F., born May 15, 1892; Ernest Theodore, born August 10, 1894, and Elsie T., born March 20, 1900.

Besides general farming, Mr. Willgrubs conducts one of the best dairies in the country; he has held the office of town clerk for eleven terms and is a Democrat in politics.

Jib T. Willgrubs*, who ranks among the substantial farmers of Big Creek valley, was born in Brush Creek valley near Cashton, Monroe county, Wis., March 16, 1862. His father, George L. Willgrubs, was born at Hanover, Germany, and came early in the fifties to the United States and located at Lodi, Dane county, Wis., where for three years he followed the trade of blacksmith, and then removed to Monroe county. The mother of Mr. Willgrubs, whose maiden name was Minnie Snyder, was born at Mecklenburg, Germany, and after coming to this country settled in Monroe county, where she married George L. Willgrubs. Upon arriving in this county, Mr. Willgrubs purchased a farm of 172 acres in Bush Creek valley, which he cleared and improved with a good class of buildings, and brought the soil to a high state of cultivation.

Jib T. Willgrubs was reared on the home farm and attended the district schools, and assisted with the farm work until he reached his majority, when he purchased 132 acres of the homestead farm from his father and started farming on his own account. The other forty acres the father reserved, upon which he erected new buildings, and where he made his home until his death on September 30, 1907, at the age of seventy-one years. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Willgrubs disposed of the farm and removed to the city of Sparta, where she now resides. They had a family of nine children: John, lives at Cashton; Jib T., subject of this sketch; Ellen, wife of Walter Parks; Anna, wife of Christ Gammerdinger, of Hustle, Juneau county; Nettie, widow of Thomas Murphy, of Sparta, and Bertha is the wife of Allen Schutt, and resides in Milwaukee. Those deceased

are Margaret, who died at the age of two years; Henry died in infancy, and Charles died at the age of twenty-six years.

Mr. Willgrubs was married on September 27, 1895, at Rome, Wis., to Miss Rose Frohmader, daughter of John and Mary (Bornhimer) Frohmader. Her parents moved from Rome, Jefferson county, to Clifton township, Monroe county, in 1872, where the father died in 1907 at the age of seventy-one years. His widow, mother of Mrs. Willgrubs, survives, and lives in the city of Sparta. To Mr. and Mrs. Jib T. Willgrubs have been born three children: Leonard G., Everett J., and Eunice M. In 1908. Mr. Willgrubs removed to Sparta township and purchased eighty acres of land in section eighteen in the Big Creek valley, to which he added by purchase until he now has one hundred and thirty acres of highly cultivated land. Mr. Willgrubs is one of the public spirited and influential farmers of Monroe county, and takes a lively interest in the affairs of his town and county. For four years he was chairman of the Jefferson town board, treasurer of the school district for seventeen years, and for several years overseer of highways. He is a member of the Sparta town board, a member of the Sparta Fruit Growers' Association, director and treasurer of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and in politics a Republican.

William U. Willgrubs is another one of the prosperous and influential farmers of the Big Creek valley. He is the son of Menke and Anna (Baker) Willgrubs, and was born in Algona, Iowa, June 26, 1869. His father came to the United States from Germany, and first located in Wisconsin in the early fifties, where he made a start in life and returned to Germany for his parents, with whom he later returned to America. Mrs. Willgrubs, mother of our subject, was a native of Wisconsin, having been born in Waukesha county. After returning to America with his parents, the father of Mr. Willgrubs went to Iowa, and remained there until 1872, whence they removed to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled on a farm in Sparta township, where they remained for seven years, when the father purchased the farm in section eighteen, this township, which is now owned by William, and which he successfully carried on for eighteen years. He then removed to the city of Sparta, where he lives in practical retirement, enjoying the fruits of his long years of toil. Mrs. Willgrubs, mother of our subject, died when William was nine years old. Mr. Willgrubs is the second child of a family of four children. The others are George, who lives in Sparta; Ida, formerly the wife of D. L. Powell, is deceased; and Nettie, who

died at the age of four years. William, our subject, obtained his education in the district school and assisted in the work on the farm until the fall of 1890, when he purchased the same from his father. He has since made many improvements on the place, among these being his modern residence, which was erected in 1903, and has many up-to-date appliances, such as hot and cold water, etc. In 1911 a new and commodious barn, 36 by 48 feet, with twenty-foot post, was erected, besides which there is a fine silo and other improvements. Mr. Willgrubs uses modern methods in his farming, and his is one of the model country homes in Monroe county.

On June 10, 1891, Mr. Willgrubs was united in marriage with Miss Ida B. Hutson, daughter of John Hutson, of Sparta township. To Mr. and Mrs. Willgrubs have been born five children: Ralph V., Wilbert J., Harold, who died in infancy; Francis D., and Dorothy Mary Ann. Mr. Willgrubs is one of the enterprising public spirited citizens of the county, and takes an active interest in public affairs. He has been treasurer of his town one term, highway commissioner one term and for thirteen years a member of the school board. In religious faith and fellowship Mr. Willgrubs and his family affiliate with the Big Creek Methodist Episcopal church.

George Williams, who is one of the successful farmers of Wells township, was born at Kilbourn City, Wis., April 14, 1864, son of Casper and Elizabeth (Craig) Williams, natives of Germany. Some time in the fifties the parents, with one child, emigrated to America and located at Grand Rapids, Wis. After a residence there of two years, they moved to Kilbourn City and there remained ten years, whence they went to Bangor, La Crosse county, making the trip from Kilbourn with an ox team, one cow and two pigs, which followed the wagon all the way to La Crosse county. For fourteen years the father was engaged in rafting on the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. He homesteaded eighty acres of land in La Crosse county at a time when there were no railroads, and he would often carry a sack of flour on his back, weighing 150 pounds, from La Crosse to his claim. They experienced all the trials and hardships of pioneer life in a new country, and later purchased a farm in Burns township, La Crosse county, and there lived until the father's death at the age of eighty-two years. The mother died in 1902. They were the parents of six children. In religious belief they were Lutherans, and the father was a Democrat in politics.

George Williams, who was the fifth child in order of birth,

attended the district schools and remained on the home farm assisting with the farm work until he was twenty-one. He then went to South Dakota and spent one year. Returning to Wisconsin, he purchased the George King farm of 167 acres, in section eleven, Wells township, where he has since resided, and has made valuable and lasting improvements to the house, barns and other buildings, and is known as one of the most progressive and influential general farmers and dairymen of his town. In politics he is a Democrat and has served as treasurer of the school district for three years.

He was married at Cataract, Wis., to Miss Helen Stetzer, daughter of August Stetzer, one of the early settlers of La Crosse county. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of seven children, viz.: Gertrude, Robert W., Lloyd, Harold, Vera, Ralph and George Williams.

Robert Williams, one of the model farmers of Monroe county, who resides on section nine, Little Falls township, was born at Grand Rapids, Wis., August 12, 1855, to Casper and Elizabeth (Craig) Williams, natives of Germany, and who after marriage came to the United States in 1853 and located in Wood county, Wisconsin, where the father worked in the lumber woods, and rafted logs down the Mississippi river to Dubuque, Galena and other points. He followed this occupation until 1864, during which time he changed his place of residence to near Kilbourne City, and there remained until 1865, when he removed to La Crosse county and located in Farmington township, and there cleared up and improved two farms, which he brought from a wild state to one of cultivation and productiveness, and there made his home until his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away in 1900. Robert is the second child of a family of six children. The others are, Ahart, who resides on the homestead farm in La Crosse county; Lizzie, wife of Henry Storandt, of Little Falls township; Mary, now the wife of James Troy, resides at Groton, S. D.; George, of Farmers valley, Monroe county, and Anna, wife of John Dahl, of Burr Oak, La Crosse county.

Mr. Robert Williams received his education in the common schools and remained on the home farm until twenty-seven years of age. At the age of eighteen he commenced operating a threshing machine, which he ran for twenty-five years, covering in his operations La Crosse, Monroe and Jackson counties. His first venture at farming on his own account was on a rented farm, where he continued for three years. In 1885 he purchased his

present farm, consisting of four forties in sections eight and nine, to which he has since added eighty acres in section seventeen, 172 acres in section seven, and another forty in section nine, which with 160 acres in La Crosse county, makes his landed holdings 612 acres. The home farm is under a good state of cultivation, is well stocked and improved with a good class of buildings. He carries on general farming and dairying, and is extensively engaged in breeding and raising registered Percheron horses. Mr. Williams is a man of high standing in the community, and has the respect and esteem of all who know him. and he takes a commendable interest in the affairs of his town and county, and for two terms has served as a member of the side board. On July 22, 1881, Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Schleiger, daughter of George and Margaret (Young) Schleiger, also natives of Germany. Mrs. Williams was born in La Crosse county, Wis., in 1855, and is the third child in a family of seven children. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have two daughters, Edna Amelia, born March 27, 1882, and Mary Grace, born August 16, 1885. In addition to these two daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Williams have given a home to a young man by the name of Richard Young until he becomes of age.

George Schleiger, deceased, one of the best known early German settlers of La Crosse county, father of Mrs. Robert Williams, was a resident of that county from April 17, 1853, to the time of his death, which occurred January 2, 1900, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Williams, died November 18, 1893, at the age of sixty-eight years. Mr. Schleiger was born at Saxony, Germany, September 9, 1822, and was a son of Henry and Eve (Storandt) Schleiger. He was the youngest of a family of three sons and four daughters, and was but three years of age when his mother died. He attended school until he was fourteen years old, and then was an evening pupil for a time; took up the trade of a mason and served an apprenticeship for several years. His father was a master mason, and had charge of a large number of men. He died in his native land at the age of seventy-three years. When Mr. Schleiger was twenty-two years of age he sailed from Bremen for the port of New York, believing that the opportunities afforded in the United States excelled those of the old world. After a voyage of fifty-eight days he reached America, continued his journey to Milwaukee, Wis., by the way of the great lakes, thence he went to Walworth county, Wisconsin, and settled at Lake Geneva, where he secured employment as a hostler in a hotel. He was one of the first settlers in this place,

there were no roads except Indian trails, and game could be had in abundance. Fortune did not first smile on Mr. Schleiger, but being well endowed with that pluck and perseverance which so strongly characterize his nationality, he overcame many obstacles and became the owner of one of the fine farms and homes in La Crosse county.

Mr. Schleiger was united in marriage February 26, 1848, at Lake Geneva, to Miss Margaret Young, also a native of Saxony, and a daughter of John Adam Young, who settled in Wisconsin in 1847. To Mr. and Mrs. Schleiger were born seven daughters: Mary, deceased; Amelia, wife of Robert Williams; Orpha, deceased; Anna Elizabeth, wife of O. D. Robinson, of West Salem, Wis.; Lydia, wife of Dell Quiggle, of Burr Oak, Wis., and Sarah, wife of Ed Radcliffe, of Farmington township, La Crosse county.

William D. Williams was born in LaFayette township, where he still resides, on March 31, 1877, the son of Richard Williams, who was born in Wales, and Martha Williams, also born in Wales, where they married fifty years ago and came to America, locating in LaFayette township, Monroe county, Wisconsin, on a tract of wild land. The father followed the occupation of farming the remainder of his life experiencing the usual difficulties of the pioneer, and died in 1879 at the early age of forty years. His wife, mother of our subject, passed away in 1883. They raised a family of children, viz.: Maggie, wife of E. Vanorman, Sparta; Mary, wife of Oscar Damman, of Sparta; Roger, deceased; John lives in Little Falls township; Katherine is Mrs. Al Gibbard, and resides in Milwaukee, and William D., the subject of this sketch. Being but six years old when his mother died, Mr. Williams made his home with Thomas Richards, of Little Falls township, until he was old enough to work out. He was given a common school education by Mr. Richards, and started life on his own resources by working at farming for various people until 1900, when he had accumulated sufficient means with which he purchased his present farm of 120 acres from Mrs. C. A. Cross, and has since built a comfortable and commodious residence, made additions to the barn, erected a berry house, machine shed, silo and granary and has otherwise improved his place until he now has an ideal farm home. He is engaged in general farming and dairying, and makes a specialty of raising berries and small fruit at which he has been one of the most successful in his township. He has always been interested in the affairs of his community and has served as supervisor of his town and is a member of the school board. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1900 Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Maud A. Wilcox, daughter of Wellington Wilcox, now a resident of Sparta. They have one child, Jesse Roger Williams.

William G. Williams, a prominent banker and business man of Sparta, was born on February 16, 1848, in the town of Kingston, Green Lake county, Wis. His parents were Robert and Margaret (Griffith) Williams, who came to this state from Wales in 1845, and settled in Green Lake county, where they engaged in farming, and the father was a local clergyman. They were among the first settlers of that section of the country. Mr. Williams died at the age of fifty-three years, and Mrs. Williams is now living in Milwaukee in her eighty-third year. Five children survive them, two sons and three daughters, our subject being the eldest of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Williams were residents of both Milwaukee and Monroe county, Wis., for many years.

William G. Williams acquired his early education in the public schools of Dodge county and in Milwaukee, and in 1859 removed with his parents to Angelo township in Monroe county, and has since been one of the leading citizens of the community, his energy, enterprise and persevering industry having gained for him a degree of success of which he may justly be proud. He served the position of register of deeds of Monroe county for many years, and also held the position of clerk in the land office, resigning the latter position on account of ill health. He was afterward appointed assignee for M. A. Thayer & Company, both from Sparta and Tomah, and a year later he assisted in the establishment of the Monroe County Bank, of which he was made vice president at the opening in 1894, and as such has since continued. Although he is a thorough business man, Mr. Williams stands well in social circles of Sparta, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

On November 2, 1875, he married Miss Anna Jones, daughter of Stephen Jones, of Adrian, Monroe county. Their children are Everett L., Ethel, Ralph S., and Eunice. Margaret T. died April 17, 1897.

William J. Williams, a well known farmer of Leon township, was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, March 12, 1861, son of William P. and Martha T. Williams, both natives of Wales. The father came to America in 1852 and located in Waukesha county where he married. He later, with his wife and three children, went to Bangor, La Crosse county, making the trip overland by ox team. He acquired 100 acres of land and there made his home until 1873, when they moved to the Leon valley in Monroe

county and purchased 324 acres three miles south of the village of Leon, and there lived for thirty years, when he went to reside with his son, who had purchased a farm close to Leon. Here they passed the balance of their long and useful lives; the father died November 21, 1907, in his seventy-fourth year; his widow survived until January 23, 1910, when she passed away at the age of seventy-five years and eight months. They were married in 1857 and raised a family of five children, all of whom are now living, viz.: Richard Thomas, born June 15, 1859; William J., subject of this sketch, born March 12, 1861; Martha Jane, born July 30, 1864; Lizzie Ann, born November 5, 1867, and Sarah Ellen, born February 19, 1873. At the time of their marriage their finances were limited, but by hard work, industry and economy, they succeeded in accumulating a substantial fortune in due time and Mr. Williams was recognized as one of Leon's most successful farmers, a man of quiet, unassuming manner, public-spirited, charitable, and a devoted Christian. He and his most estimable wife were members of the Congregational church, and contributed liberally to its support. He was a close student, and practically knew the Bible by heart. He was a Republican in politics, but never sought political preferment, and being a man of good judgment, he served for twenty-five years as school clerk and for fifteen years as supervisor. During his active lifetime he was a successful breeder and raiser of good cattle, horses and hogs, with which his farm was plentifully stocked. Mrs. Williams, mother of our subject, was one of a family of fourteen children, all of whom are deceased. Her father emigrated from Wales and also located in Waukesha county, where he spent his life a successful and influential farmer.

William J. received his education in the district schools and assisted his father on the farm. In 1899 he purchased a farm of 140 acres, where he now resides, paying for the same $45 per acre. Since making his substantial improvements he has refused $100 per acre. From a small beginning in raising a few colts, our subject has developed into a successful horse breeder and trader. Some years ago he formed a copartnership with John L. Jones, and under the firm name of Williams and Jones, did an extensive business in buying and selling cattle, shipping some years as high as 100 carloads of cattle to Eastern markets. Mr. Williams, with his brother Richard, owns 600 acres of land in Minnesota, where the brother conducts a large logging camp, he having

been a successful lumberman and contractor for thirty years, and now resides at Duluth, Minn.

John J. F. Winters, who is one of the wide-awake and progressive farmers of Sparta township, was born at Burlington, Racine county, Wis., April 28, 1859, son of John and Minnie (Benson) Winters, of Baden, Germany, and Berlin, Prussia, respectively. The father was born in 1830, and when a young boy came to the United States, stopping first at Milwaukee. When fourteen years of age he moved to Burlington, where in 1857 he was married, and in 1860 moved to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and settled on a farm of eighty acres, which he purchased in section twenty-four, Sparta township, which was at that time but a wilderness inhabited by Indians and wild game. To his original purchase he continued to make additions until he acquired 360 acres. He carried on general farming, and for fifty years made this his home, until 1910, when he removed to the city of Sparta, where he now resides, enjoying the well-earned fruits of his years of toil. Mrs. Winters, mother of J. J. F., was born in 1840 and died May 4, 1910. She was a woman of strong personality, brilliant and intellectual, well versed in matters of ancient history, on which she was considered an authority, was often consulted on the subject, and made herself felt in the community in which she resided. She was prominent and active in religious circles and assisted in the building of the Advent church at Sparta. The paternal grandfather, George Winters, a native of Germany, came to America in the early fifties and located at Burlington, Racine county. The maternal grandfather, Frederick Benson, who was a native of Berlin, Prussia, came to America in 1852 and also settled in Burlington, and engaged in farming, and there died in 1859.

John J. F. Winters was raised on his father's farm and attended the district schools. He helped to clear the home farm with his own hands, and has been a hard worker since boyhood. In 1912 he purchased the old homestead, which, added to his original purchase, makes him a farm of 560 acres, of which 270 are improved and under the plow, the balance being in wooded land and pasture. The commodious residence, large barns and outbuildings, including the silo, have all been erected by Mr. J. J. F. Winters, and for twelve years last past he has been engaged in raising Guernsey cattle, both registered and grades, being the first breeder of this stock in the town of Sparta. He also makes a speialty of Poland-China hogs and Brown Leghorn chickens. Mr. Winters is the eldest of a family of three children.

The others are: Eliza, widow of Daniel Evans, of Oswego, Ore., and George, of Sparta. Mr. Winters has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his town and county. He has been a member of the board of supervisors, chairman of the town board and treasurer of his town, and in politics he is a Republican. For twenty years he has been prominent in Masonic circles, is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and the Knights Templar. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. There are few men living in Monroe county whose early experience were equal to those of Mr. Winters. Coming to this county when but one year old, he grew up in that part of the county, which was then in a wild state, and relates that some of his early playmates were Indian boys and girls, and how he joined with them in their sports. The Indian children were trained to the use of the "bow and arrow," Mr. Winters joining them in target practice, and soon became efficient in their use.

Albert W. Withers, the son of William and Martha Withers, was born in New York, on January 16, 1847. His parents were both natives of England, where the father was born in 1795. He emigrated to America in 1844, and located in New York, and remained there until 1854, when he came west to Wisconsin and located in Monroe county, and was one of the early pioneers of Ridgeville township, and settled on an eighty-acre tract which he purchased for $100, which was all the money he had at that time, and immediately set to work to clear and improve it, and finally, by hard work and perseverance, established the family home, and cultivated the land to a point where they were able to realize quite a comfortable livelihood. During those pioneer days in Monroe county, La Crosse was the nearest trading point, and Mr. Withers often walked there to purchase provisions and clothing for the family. He was the father of sixteen children, five of whom are now living (1912). Besides general farming, Mr. Withers made somewhat of a specialty of stock raising. After years of labor, his farm was made one of the most productive in the county. He was a broad-minded, energetic man, and highly esteemed as one of the best class of pioneers. He was a devoted member of the Methodist church, and contributed liberally to its support. The little church which he built on his farm in those early days still stands, in a fair state of preservation. His death occurred December 10, 1876. His widow, mother of our subject, is still (September 30, 1912) living, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, much esteemed by the citizens of the locality in which she lives.

Albert W. was raised on his father's farm until his seventeenth year, receiving a thorough training in farm work, and attending the district schools. He then came to Tomah and apprenticed himself for three years to learn the wagon-making trade. At the end of that time he went to Sparta and worked at his trade one year, then moved back to Ridgeville and established a wagon shop of his own. He later purchased a farm near Oakdale, which he successfully carried on, engaged in general farming until 1901, when he returned to Tomah and entered the employ of the Crossette Manufacturing Company, where he has since been engaged.

On October 9, 1872, he was united in marriage to Miss Dora M. Kolster, of the town of Tomah. They have had four children, three of whom are living, viz.: Ida, Myrtle and Cora.

In politics Mr. Withers affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in its councils. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in religious matters belongs to the Congregational church.

Herbert Wood,* one of the energetic, enterprising and wide-awake farmers of Monroe county, came from a prominent New England family, his ancestry on the paternal side coming to this country shortly after the landing of the Mayflower and settling in New England. His parents, F—— and Mary (Pierce) Wood, were natives of Massachusetts, where they resided until 1856. In that year they came west to Wisconsin, and settled at Tomah, where our subject was born, November 23, 18—. The father purchased from the government 640 acres of land, three and one-half miles south of the city of Tomah. The farm was unbroken and practically a dense wilderness, and largely populated by Indians and wild beasts. There were no roads in the county and traveling was difficult, and he immediately set to work to clear and subdue the land and establish the family home. By hard work, thrift and economy, the land was improved with a good residence and outbuildings, and soon brought to a high state of cultivation, and besides successfully carrying on general farming, he made a specialty of high-grade cattle and hogs. There were five boys in the family, three of whom are now living, viz.: Herbert, Milton C. and Leonard A. Mr. Wood was a strong anti-slavery man, was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, and forever after was a member of that political party. He was a high-minded, public-spirited man, a devoted Christian, and for over twenty years a deacon in the Baptist church, and occupied a prominent place among the citizens of

the community. He died December 5, 1899, and his wife, mother of our subject, February 15, 1907. The maternal great-grandfather, ——— Fuller, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served under Washington, and was with his command at Valley Forge. The paternal grandfather of our subject was captured by the British at Sackett's Harbor in the War of 1812, and held a prisoner by them for twenty-two months. He held the rank of orderly sergeant, and at the time of his death owned 160 acres of land in Monroe county.

Herbert was raised on his father's farm, and attended the district schools up to his twentieth year, and then taught school one winter. He remained on the farm with his parents until their death, succeeding his father on the homestead, which he acquired by purchase. He is a Democrat in political sentiment, and takes an active part in the councils of his party; he has held the office of clerk and treasurer of the township, and on August 1, 1911, was chosen secretary of the Tomah Creamery Association. He is a member of the Congregational church, and of the E. F. U.

Mr. Wood was married November 28, 1891, at Tomah, to Miss Ida A. Glaede. Four children have been born to them, three of whom are now (1912) living, viz.: Gladys, born November 23, 1903; Edwin, born March 22, 1906, and Rogers, born January 29, 1910.

Nelson M. Woodworth, who has lived in Monroe county, Wisconsin, for more than half a century, was born December 28, 1848, in the town of New Lyme, Ashtabula county, Ohio. His father, Story Woodworth, was born in Pennsylvania, August 14, 1809, and in 1838 married Miss Candace Jyne, in Ohio, who was born in New York state, December 14, 1816. They had a family of six children, viz.: Luther J., Sarah M., Mary L., Nelson M., Phila E. and Abel Woodworth. In 1855, when our subject was a boy of six years, the family moved to Jefferson county, where they remained for a time, then came on to Sauk county, where they remained four years, thence to Monroe county, locating at Cataract, where the father was engaged in farming, and experienced the hardships of pioneer life for a great many years; they came here when the country was practically a wilderness, and thus struggled the while against the difficulties they encountered until as a result of their hard work and perseverance they passed their last days in a comfortable and happy home.

In 1891 Mr. Nelson M. Woodworth moved to Little Falls township and purchased a farm of 170 acres in section two,

where he has since carried on general farming and dairying, and is considered one of the most thrifty and prosperous farmers of the county and an influential and wide-awake citizen. He has been lavish in his expenditure of time, energy and money in improving his farm, erecting commodious and substantial buildings, with the most modern appliances and equipments, making it one of the most attractive homes in the country.

Mr. Woodworth was married in 1878 to Miss Ida Moseley, daughter of Alonzo and Eunice (Hunt) Moseley. She was born January 16, 1861, and has spent her entire life in Monroe county. Mr. and Mrs. Woodworth have an interesting family of eight children, viz.: Blanche, Wade H., Bertha E., Spencer W., Bessie I., Mildred E., Wallace M. and Rachel M.

Samuel Wruck,* who was born June 28, 1865, is a native of Sheldon township, and the son of Andrew and Euphraseno (Kruger) Wruck, both natives of Germany. They came to America in the early fifties, with a family of five children, and first located in Sauk county. Remaining there but a short time, they moved to Monroe county and settled in Sheldon in 1854, and homesteaded a quarter-section of wild land in section five, where the father established a home for himself and family. He cleared the land and brought it to a good state of cultivation. In those early days there were plenty of Indians, and even after the massacre in Minnesota the Indians often camped on their farm, but always treated them kindly, never subjecting them to any kind of cruelty. Wild game was plentiful, and venison was the principal means of subsistence; the father had learned the trade of carpenter, and while living on the homestead he worked at his trade for a man at Sparta, receiving from $8 to $10 per month for his labor, and used to carry a sack of meal on his back when returning from work. Mr. Wruck used several ox teams in carrying on his farm work, as was usual in those days, and was considered an authority on many points of agriculture. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted in the Eighteen Wisconsin Infantry, and was killed in service while in line of duty. He was a Whig in politics until the formation of the Republican party, and ever after was a staunch supporter of the principles of that party. He was twice married, having no issue by the first marriage, and his second wife was Miss E—— Kruger, to whom eight children were born, seven of whom are now (1912) living.

Samuel Wruck, our subject, was reared on the farm and attended the district schools up to his eighteenth year, but was

practically dependent upon his own resources at the age of fifteen. He was first employed at farm work and received the sum of fifty cents per week; he later went to Madison, Wis., for a time and afterwards to Montana, where he herded cattle on a ranch for one year. From there he went to North Dakota, and for nine years, off and on, was engaged in running a threshing machine. His next employment was in a grain elevator at Castleton, N. D., but subsequently he returned to Monroe county and purchased 220 acres of wild land in sections twenty-six and twenty-seven, in the town of Sheldon, where he has since resided. In 1898 he built a large and commodious barn, and in 1900 erected a modern residence; he has a flowing spring which furnishes an abundant supply of pure water for his house and stock; his place is always well stocked and in addition to his general farming, he carries on quite an extensive dairy business. He is a Republican in politics, and takes an active part in promoting the interests of his party. In 1900 he was elected treasurer of his town, an office he has held for twelve years, and for several years has been a school director. He is one of the public-spirited and influential citizens of his town and enjoys the confidence of all who know him.

On October 5, 1892, he was married in the town of Wells, to Miss Anna Herzberg, and they have had four children, viz.: Ruth A., Grace L., Earl S. and Taft Claud.

Lucian D. Wyatt, who has resided in section seven, Tomah township, since 1874, is a native of Streetsboro, Medina county, Ohio, where he was born March 6, 1843. He is a son of Ezra and Mary (Whipple) Wyatt. Ezra Wyatt was a native of New York, and moved in an early day to Ohio, in which state he died. Our subject is one of a family of eleven children, five of whom are living. At the age of eleven years he came with a sister and her husband, David Olds, to Oconomowoc, Wis., where he resided for a time, later making his home with another sister, Mrs. H. Campbell, in the town of Wellington, in Monroe county, attending the district school until the age of fourteen, when he returned to Oconomowoc, where he was employed at farm work. At the age of eighteen, August 26, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, First Wisconsin Cavalry, and served three years in the army, and was discharged in 1864. His regiment operated largely in Missouri and Arkansas, and was afterwards sent to Tennessee, where it participated in several sharp skirmishes and engagements, at Chickamauga, Knoxville and other points. At the expiration of his term of service, Mr. Wyatt returned to Monroe county, and

bought an eighty-acre farm on what is known as the Ridge. It was in 1874 that he bought 100 acres of land in section seven, where he now lives, and later bought a forty-acre tract in the town of Wellington. To the home farm he has added many valuable and lasting improvements, including a fine residence, commodious barns, two silos, granary, and other outbuildings. He is an extensive raiser of thoroughbred stock, Jersey cattle and Percheron horses. Cattle raising has been his specialty, and he is now chiefly engaged in the dairy business. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Company, and the Farmers' Insurance Company.

On July 3, 1875, in the town of La Grange, Mr. Wyatt was married to Miss Viola Burdick, a daughter of Ezra and Mary Burdick. The children of this union are Ernst E., Vera M., Ray L. and Ethel. Mr. Wyatt is a man well posted on the events of the day, and in politics he is a Republican. He and his estimable wife affiliate with the Baptist church.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, William Whipple, served in the Revolutionary War under Washington.

John J. Youngman, one of the leading business men of Sparta, is the son of John and Barbara Youngman, born at Milwaukee, Wis., April 15, 1854. His parents emigrated to America from Germany, settling in Milwaukee in the early fifties, where they were married and raised their family. He was a butcher by trade, and after following this occupation for some time in Milwaukee, the family moved to New Lisbon, where the father met an untimely death by accident with a runaway team of horses in 1865, at the age of thirty-nine years.

John J. was educated in the public schools of Milwaukee, and brought up in the butcher business with his father. After the death of the latter, he was employed for a time by Samuel Holzer, at New Lisbon, then went to Mauston, in Juneau county, where he was employed by Thomas Jennings, afterwards to Tomah, and was employed by Edward Waggoner, and it was in 1870 that he first came to Sparta and entered the employ of Benjamin Stevens & Son, who then conducted a meat market on Oak street. His next employment was with Potter, Audis & Palmer, which position he held for two years, when he purchased the interest of Potter and associated with Hiram Davenport by disposing of a half interest to him, with the firm name Davenport & Youngman. This continued for about three years, when Mr. Davenport sold his interest to Mr. Youngman, who later sold to N. P. Lee, the style of the firm then changing to Lee & Youngman, and at the

end of two years William P. Meyers purchased an interest, and a year later Mr. Youngman acquired entire control and associated with his brother, Louis J. Youngman, under the name of Youngman Brothers, and under this name the business was carried on from 1892 to 1901, when John J. sold out to his brother and retired from the business after a long and successful career. We next find Mr. Youngman engaged in the real estate business, handling principally farm lands, and this, together with looking after his own extensive property interests, has since given him ample employment to occupy his time. In 1907 he rebuilt his old home, where he has lived for the past twenty-seven years, with a beautiful modern residence, No. 316 Pine street, where he enjoys, with his family, the fruits of his past labors.

On October 3, 1874, Mr. Youngman was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Fitzgerald, daughter of Patrick and Margaret (Lynch) Fitzgerald, of Herseyville, Wis. Mrs. Youngman is the fifth child of a family of seven children, viz.: Patrick, deceased; Mary, now the wife of William C. Hoffman, of Sparta; Nellie is the wife of Irvin Childs, of Sparta; John resides in Chicago; Catherine, wife of Robert McGrath, of Great Falls, Mont., and Thomas Fitzgerald, who resides in Canada. The parents of Mrs. Youngman were natives of Ireland, and came to Canada, where their family was born. They moved to Herseyville, Wis., during the Civil War, where both parents died at the age of eighty-five and seventy years, respectively. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Youngman are Mary, wife of James McCabe, of Sun Prairie, Wis., and Jessie, wife of Joseph Milligan, of Proctor, Minn.

Mr. Youngman is the oldest of a family of four children, the others being Louis, of Sparta; May, wife of James Zimmeler, of Washington, and Flora, deceased, who was the wife of Henry Barrett. The family was reared in the Catholic faith, Mr. Youngman being a member of St. Patrick's church, of Sparta.

Joseph Zastoupil,* an Austrian by birth, is one of the substantial and successful farmers of La Grange township, where he resides on his farm of 100 acres in section thirty-one. His parents, Frank and Agnes (Hobulick) Zastoupil, were natives of Austria, and came to Wisconsin in 1867, and first located in Watertown, Dodge county, where they remained for two years, and came to Monroe county and located in Oakdale township, where the father was successfully engaged in farming sixteen years, and where he lived until his death in 1885, at the age of sixty-five years. His widow, mother of our subject, survived

until 1903, when she died in La Grange township, at the age of seventy-two years. They reared a family of six children; of the others besides our subject, Trena married John Walrath, of La Crosse county; Agnes is the wife of A. Rehberg, of Tomah; Anna is deceased; Barbara is the wife of Theodore Rehberg and lives in Oregon, and Mary married John Prohasky, of La Grange township.

Joseph Zastoupil was born in Austria, March 18, 1856; his educational opportunities were limited, the farm duties requiring his attention from boyhood; he remained on the home farm in the town of Oakdale until he was thirty-three years old, then went to Wilton township and purchased a farm of 120 acres, and remained there for eleven years; he then moved to his present farm, which he has continued to improve and bring to a high state of cultivation. His buildings are commodious and well constructed, and in his farming operations he uses the most modern methods.

In 1882 he was married to Miss Kathryn Brouck, daughter of George Brouck, a native of Jefferson county, and who when but two years of age moved with his parents to Monroe county. To Mr. and Mrs. Zastoupil have been born eleven children, viz.: Mary, wife of John Gasper, of Adrian township; Amelia married Barnett Herricks, and lives in Barron county, Wisconsin; Emma; Joseph; Clara; Henry; John; Irene and Agnes reside at home; and three died in infancy.

Charles Ziegler, whose parents were both natives of Wisconsin, was born November 15, 1882, and is the fourth child of a family of eleven children born to John and Belle (Fairbanks) Ziegler. The father was born in Dane county and the mother in Burlington county. He attended the common schools until his sixteenth year, and lived at home with his parents until he was twenty-one. He commenced the life of a farmer on a rented place, and although a young man, he has been successful, and is now managing and conducting the large farm of Frank Taloc, which is considered one of the best improved farms in the town of Wells. This place is well stocked with horses, cattle, etc., the greater part of which is owned by Mr. Ziegler. He also carries on a profitable dairy business in addition to his general farming.

In politics he is a Democrat and takes an active interest in party affairs. He has been treasurer of the town for two years and is now serving his third term as overseer of public highways.

On November 15, 1911, Mr. Ziegler was married to Miss Dora

Johnson, daughter of Matt Johnson, who is a resident of Leon township.

Arno William Zimmerman,* who belongs to the younger class of energetic, enterprising and wide-awake business men of Norwalk, Wis., was born on a farm in Ridgeville township, Monroe county, October 19, 1879, the son of William and Adelia (Hoffman) Zimmerman, of American and German descent. The father of our subject came to Wisconsin in the early fifties, stopping first at Watertown. After remaining there for a short time, he came to Monroe county and settled on a farm of 100 acres in Ridgeville township, which, by economy, hard work and thrift, he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation, and has since been engaged here in general farming. He is one of the substantial men of his locality and prominently identified with the affairs of his community. He has served as township treasurer and member of the school board. He has one brother, who also came to this county and located on a farm near Norwalk. His father was Carl Zimmerman, who early came from Germany, his native land, and bought a farm in Monroe county and established the family homestead, where he lived until his death, at the age of eighty years. The maternal grandfather of our subject, ——— Hoffman, was one of the pioneer settlers of this county.

Arno W. is the eldest son of a family of eight children; the others are: Benjamin, a resident of Norwalk; Edward A. lives in Ridgeville township; and Esther W., Raymond, Grace, Reuben and Werner live at home with their parents. Our subject was reared on the home farm, attending the district schools, and helped with the farm work. During the years 1901-02 he attended the commercial department of the Northwestern College at Naperville, Ill., receiving a thorough business training. Returning to Wisconsin, he was employed for a time in the Cashton creamery, then went to Cross Plains, Wis., and was engaged at the same occupation. Returning to Norwalk in 1908, he took charge of the Norwalk creamery as buttermaker and operating manager, which position he still holds. He has taken an active part in village affairs, and is now serving his third term as clerk of Norwalk.

Mr. Zimmerman was united in marriage November 5, 1908, with Miss Elizabeth Noth, daughter of Anthony Noth, of Norwalk village.

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